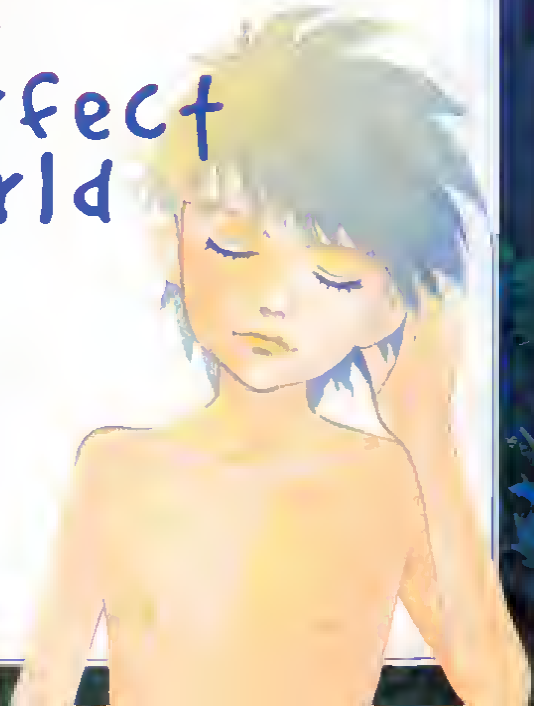
ISSHIKI Makoto presents

ピアノの森

一色まこと

The Perfect World of KAI

3



ピアノの森 3 一色まこと

講談社

ISSHIKI Makoto
presents

The Perfect World of KAI

3

Modeling/Gentarou Araki
Art Director/Hisao Ogawa

Musashi
barbapapa
ocean

ピアノの森

3

The Perfect World of KAI

一色まこと

ISSHIKI Makoto

The Perfect World of KAI

3

CONTENTS

Chapter 16 Kai meets CHOPIN ——— 5
Chapter 17 To Play Chopin ——— 27
Chapter 18 To Play Chopin (2) ——— 47
Chapter 19 To Play Chopin (3) ——— 70
Chapter 20 Start the Lesson ——— 97
Chapter 21 Repeat ——— 123
Chapter 22 Can't Get Away ——— 147
Chapter 23 Moonlight ——— 169
Chapter 24 Deal ——— 195

ALL CHARACTERS IN THIS STORY ARE FICTIONAL, ALL RESEMBLANCES ARE PURELY A COINCIDENCE

Chapter 16

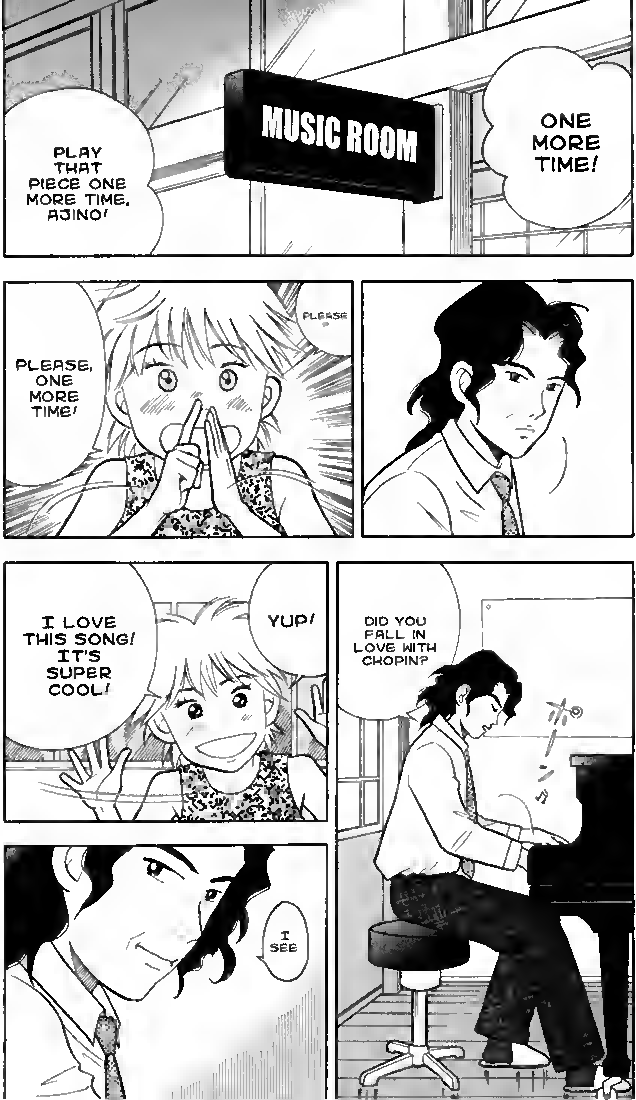
Kai meets CHOPIN

CHOPIN...

THIS IS...

"MINUTE WALTZ"

IT'S SO AMAZING——~~~!!!


MUSIC ROOM
PLAY THAT PIECE ONE MORE TIME, AJINO!
ONE MORE TIME!
PLEASE
PLEASE, ONE MORE TIME!
I LOVE THIS SONG! IT'S SUPER COOL!
YUP!
DID YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH CHOPIN?
I SEE

THE PIANO FOR SOMEONE ELSE...
PLAYING...
I WONDER HOW LONG IT'S BEEN.
I'M PLAYING FOR A CHILD...
ON TOP OF THAT...

ONE-
ONE MORE TIME!
PLEASE PLAY IT ONCE MORE, AJINO!
PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEAAASE, AJINO
ONLY ONCE!
FIRST ICHINOSE

SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT TO SAY CLEARLY
BUT WE'RE NOT IN CLASS NOW. AND I DON'T SEE YOU AS A TEACHER
ブチブチ
AH
CAN'T YOU CALL ME AJINO-SENSEI?
STOP CALLING ME AJINO THIS, AJINO THAT!
QUIT QUIBBLING
I DON'T SEE YOU AS A TEACHER
WELL
WHY DON'T YOU LOOK AT IT THAT WAY?
SUBTLE SCATCH
AT LEAST I WAS BORN BEFORE ICHINOSE.
THE KANJI FOR "SENSEI" MEANS BORN FIRST.

OKAY
I WILL SO PLEASE PLAY IT ONCE MORE, AJINO
SENSE
カッ
ICHI-NOSE ?
DO YOU WANT TO PLAY IT YOUR-SELF

"MINUTE WALTZ" BY CHOPIN...
?
?
DON'T BE SHY.
I KNOW YOU'VE ALREADY MEMORIZED THE SONG.
EH?
THERE ARE ABOUT 1500 NOTES IN THIS PIECE.
AH
DAAAAH!
NO! NO!!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!? I CAN'T PLAY IT!!
YOU IDIOT

THAT PIECE YOU WERE PLAYING IN THE FOREST HAS MORE THAN TEN THOUSAND NOTES.
... I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE CAPABLE OF.
YOU CAN PLAY *THIS*
IF YOU CAN PLAY THAT.
I REALLY CAN'T PLAY
I—

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. I CAN'T PLAY.
GEEZ, YOU'RE MISSING THE POINT!!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO PLAY IT WELL.
I CAN ONLY PLAY THE PIANO IN THE FOREST
BUT OTHER NORMAL PIANOS
I REALLY CAN'T PLAY THEM
WELL, I SUCK AT THEM.
SHIT
AH
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.

ONCE YOU GET THE HANG OF IT, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PLAY SOON
THAT'S ALL, REALLY
EH?
IF YOU SUDDENLY START PLAYING A NORMAL PIANO, YOU WON'T GET THE HANG OF IT RIGHT AWAY
?
THE PIANO IN THE FOREST IS SPECIAL
I'LL TEACH YOU
ANYWAY, WHY DON'T YOU PLAY CHOPIN WITH THIS PIANO?
FOR REAL ?

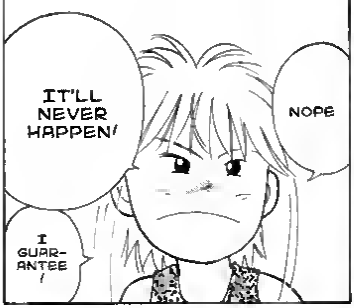
I KNOW THE STRENGTH OF YOUR FINGERS
BUT THE PIECES OF CHOPIN, WHO IS CALLED "POET OF THE PIANO," CAN'T BE PLAYED WITH JUST MUSCULAR STRENGTH
MEANING, THE TECHNIQUE THAT HE INVENTED

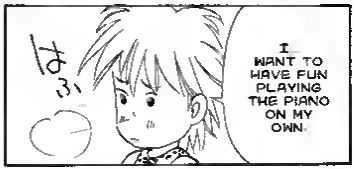
SENSEI

I'M GOING HOME.
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF LEARNING HOW TO PLAY THE PIANO.

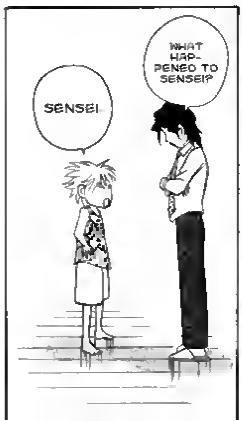
SO IT'S OKAY IF I CAN'T PLAY NORMAL PIANOS.
SEE, MY PIANO IS IN THE FOREST, Y'KNOW.
I SEE...
WHEN YOU DO FEEL LIKE LEARNING HOW TO PLAY THE PIANO...
ICHINOSE...

COME TO MY PLACE ANY TIME
IF
YOU EVER NEED ME...
IT'S AMAZING
I ASKED HIM TO, BUT WAS REJECTED
YOU SHOULD DEFINITELY LEARN IT KAI-KUN!


IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN!
NOPE
I GUAR-ANTEE!

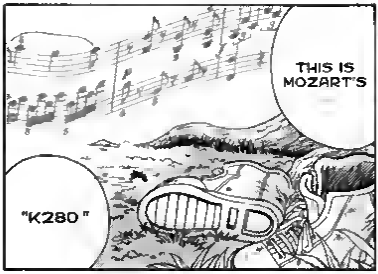

I WANT TO HAVE FUN PLAYING THE PIANO ON MY OWN.

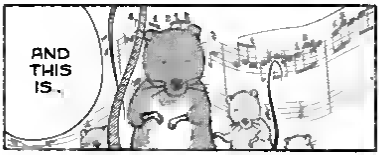
IT PROB-ABLY
WON'T HAPPEN

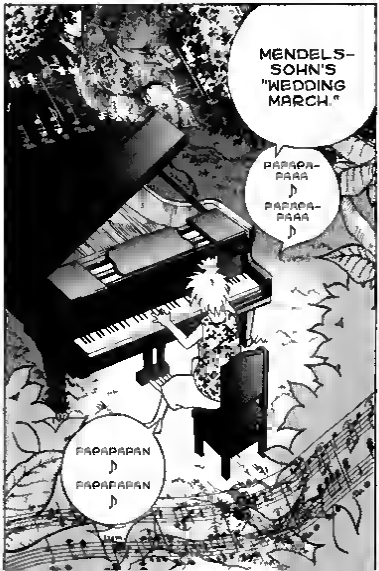

SENSEI
WHAT HAP-PENED TO SENSEI?

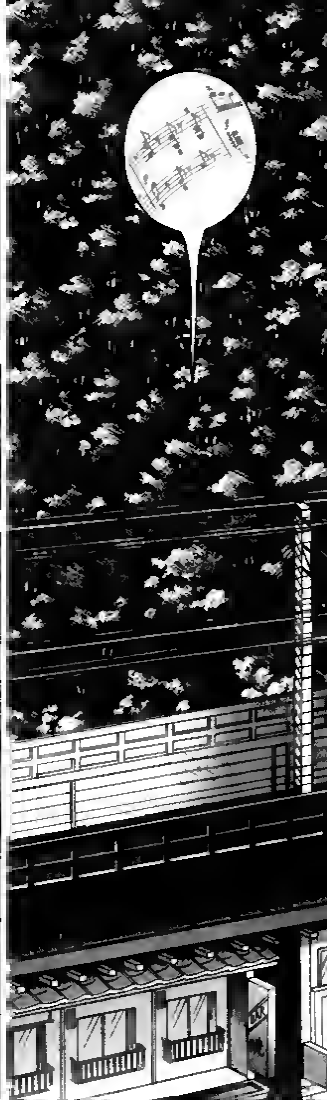
YOU'RE NOT GETTING IT AT ALL, AOINO

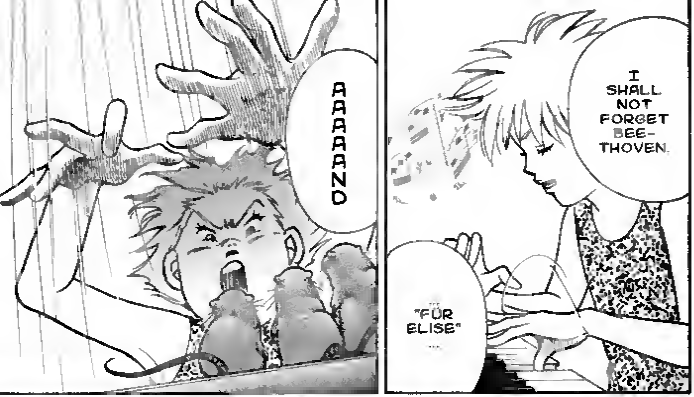
CHOPIN
CHOPIN
CHOPIN
CHOPIN
CHOPIN
CHOPIN
WHAT AM I DOING—?

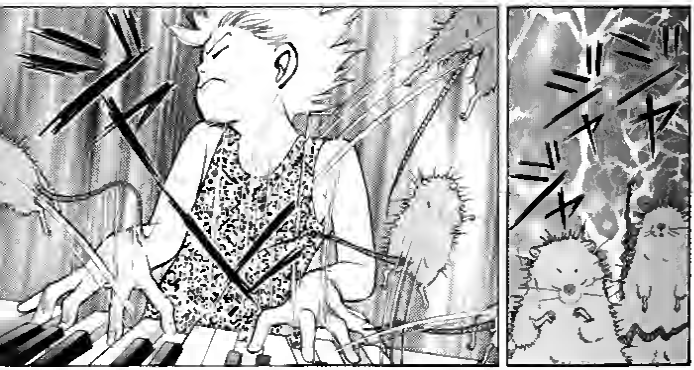

THIS IS MOZART'S
"K280"

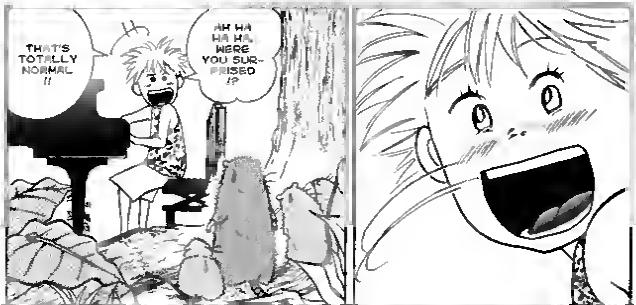

AND THIS IS...


MENDELS-SOHN'S "WEDDING MARCH."
PAPAPA-PAAA ♪
PAPAPA-PAAA ♪
PAPAPAPAN ♪
PAPAPAPAN ♪

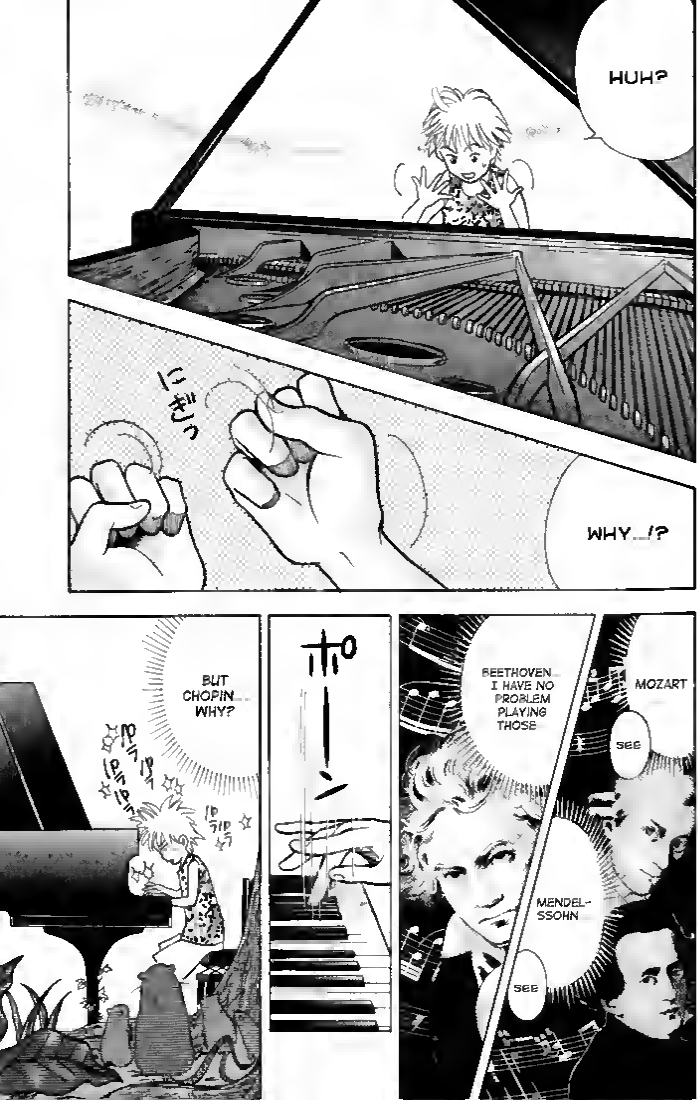



I SHALL NOT FORGET BEE-THOVEN.
"FÜR ELISE"...
AAAAAND


ミャミャミャ


THAT'S TOTALLY NORMAL !!
AH HA HA HA HA WERE YOU SURPRISED !?

"MINUTE WALTZ"
THIS IS CHOPIN
AND...
?
...


HUH?
にぎっ
WHY...!?
BUT CHOPIN... WHY?
ピロピロピロ
ピロピロ
ピロピロ

I CAN'T PLAY CHOPIN!?
NO WAY
Kai meets CHOPIN END

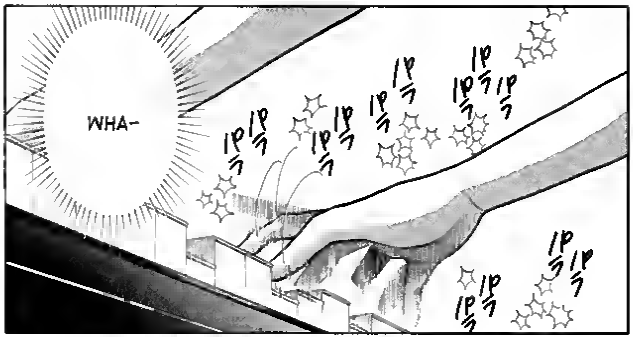
Musashi
barbapapa
ocean

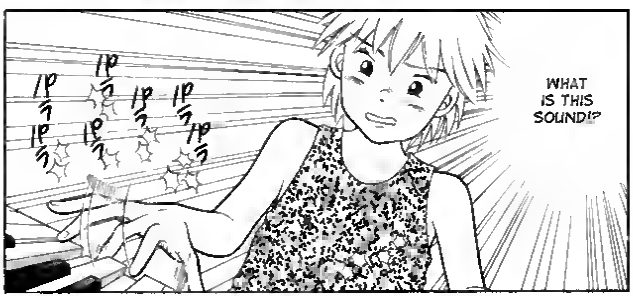
Chapter 17

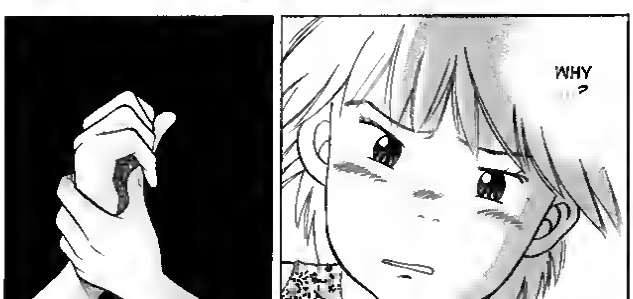
To Play Chopin (1)

Reimu

KEFI


WHA-
ピアノ


WHAT IS THIS SOUND!?
ピアノ


WHY...?

WHY CAN'T I... PLAY CHOPIN!?
WHAAAAA!?
WHAT HAPPENED TO MY HANDS...?

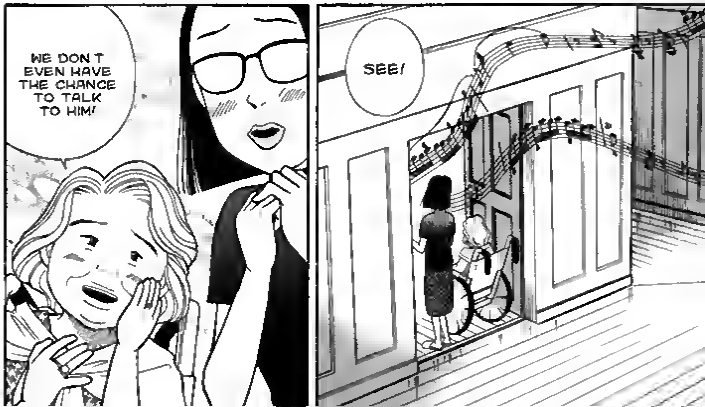
AH..
I KNOW THE STRENGTH OF YOUR FINGERS
THAT'S RIGHT
AJINO WAS SAYING SOMETHING
WHAT WAS IT—?
WHAT WAS HE SAYING?
I KNOW THE STRENGTH OF YOUR FINGERS
BUT THE PIECES OF CHOPIN, WHO IS CALLED "POET OF THE PIANO."

THEN WHAT ELSE...?
CAN'T BE PLAYED JUST WITH MUSCULAR STRENGTH
WHAT ELSE DO I NEED!?
IS WHAT!?
THE TECHNIQUE THAT HE INVENTED IS...
MEANING

I'M GOING HOME
SENSEI.
I HAVE NO INTENTION
OF LEARNING HOW TO PLAY THE PIANO
AH

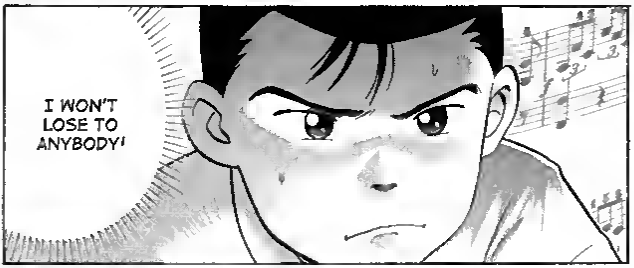
SHIT!

雨宮


WE DON'T EVEN HAVE THE CHANCE TO TALK TO HIM!
SEE!

ピアノ
Sonata
I'VE NEVER SEEN SHUHEI-SAN SO SERIOUS.
RIGHT.
I...
AH, ICHINOSE-KUN. WAS IT?
HE'S BEEN LIKE THAT EVER SINCE HIS FRIEND LEFT.

LOSE!
I WON'T


I WON'T LOSE TO ANYBODY!

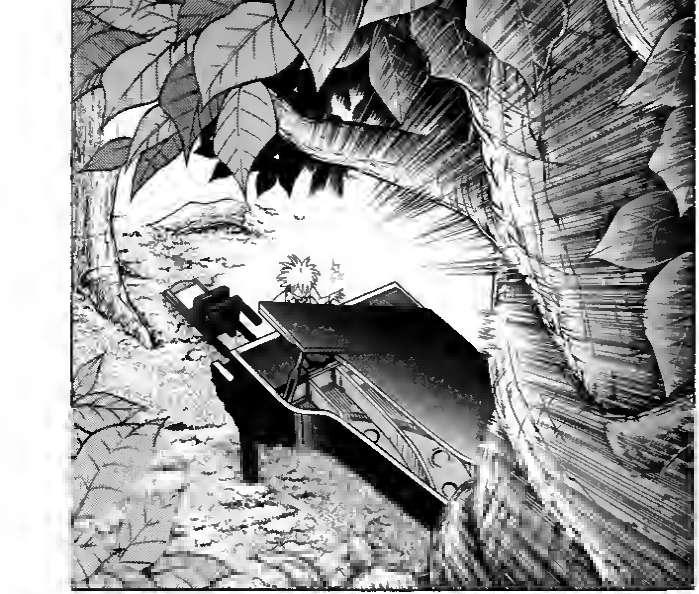
I WILL BE THE BEST!!

I'LL BE THE BEST, AND..
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
WAH!
SHUHEI-SAN!
BUT WHY DON'T YOU CONTINUE PRACTICE AFTER DINNER?
AH
AMAZING SHUHEI-SAN!
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

TRUE, IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID, MOTHER
I TOLD YOU NOT TO WORRY LIKE FATHER LIKE SON
CAUSE, YOU'RE FINALLY MOTIVATED
I'M HAPPY
カチャ カチャ
YOUR CONCENTRATION IS ALMOST SCARY
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW SERIOUS YOU'RE PLAYING
SIGH
"JAPAN NATIONAL STUDENTS' PIANO CONTEST"
KACHA
YOU KNOW THE NEXT CONTEST ?

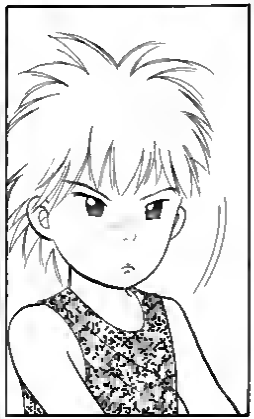
I'M PLANNING TO GET FIRST PLACE
ABOUT THAT
YOU'LL ENTER IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS SECTION, RIGHT? I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT
YES THE ONE IN A MONTH ?
AH
THAT I'M THE BEST PIANIST AMONGST ALL THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS
I WANT TO PROVE

HOW PROMISING
O-OF COURSE SHUHEI-SAN
KAI—
KAI—
居酒屋
喜久蔵



KA—

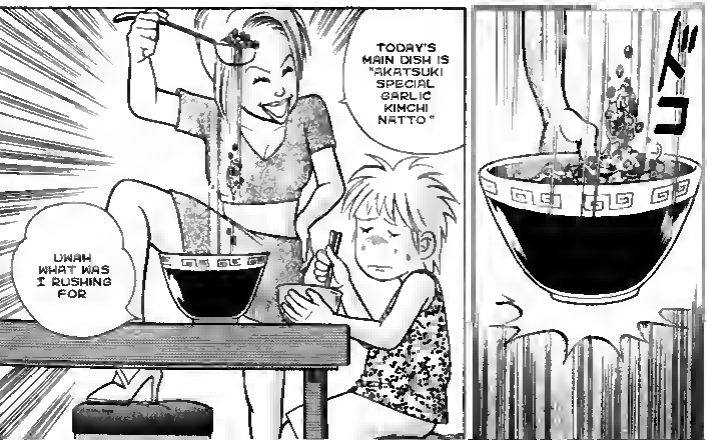
DINNER'S READY —
KAI—
ドタドタドタ

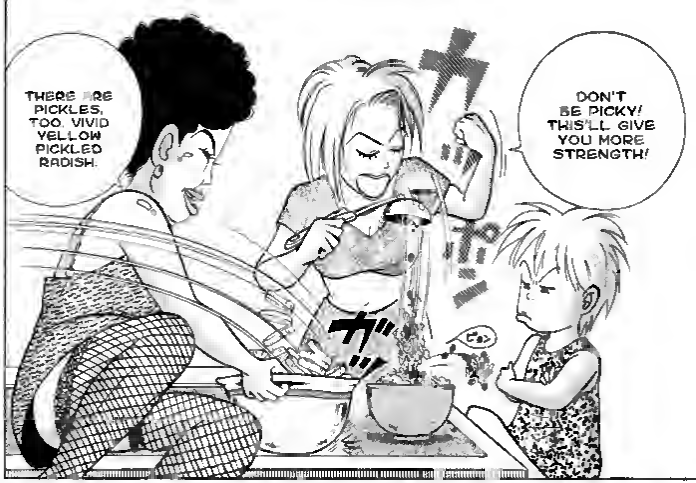


DICCCH
HEY,
KAI'S NOT HERE
NO WAY HE AIN'T HERE
DID YOU REALLY CHECK?
IF HE AIN'T HERE, HE'S SKIPPING HIS MEAL
DAAAH
I'M NOT SKIPPING MY MEAL!
POOR KAI

AH, KAI
WHERE WERE YOU HIDING?
I WASN T HIDING
ドコドコ

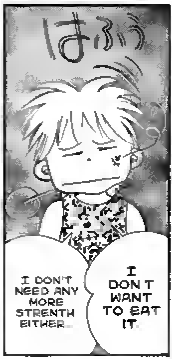
AH HA HA COME QUICK
OR YOU'LL MISS YOUR MEAL!
ガヤガヤ


TODAY'S MAIN DISH IS "AKATSUKI SPECIAL GARLIC KIMCHI NATTO"
UWAH WHAT WAS I RUSHING FOR
ズコ


THERE ARE PICKLES, TOO. VIVID YELLOW PICKLED RADISH.
DON'T BE PICKY! THIS'LL GIVE YOU MORE STRENGTH!
ポン
ガ…

YOU'LL GET STRONGER ♡

JUST WHEN I WAS THINKING STRENGTH WON'T HELP ME

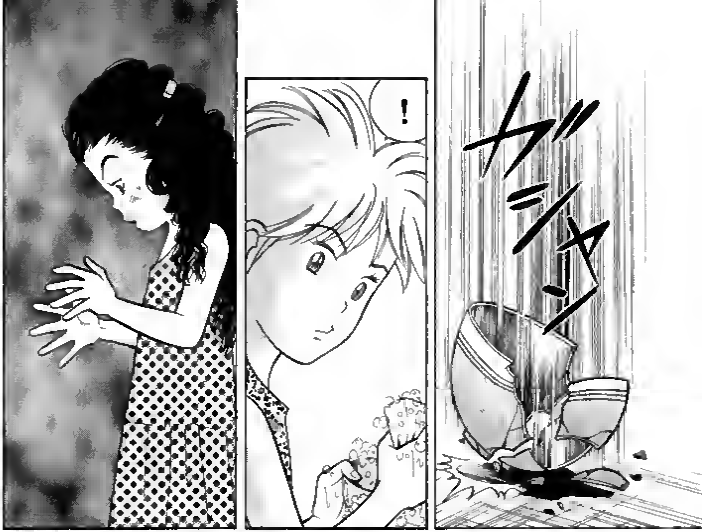

はふっ
I DON'T NEED ANY MORE STRENTH EITHER...
I DON'T WANT TO EAT IT.

TO PLAY CHOPIN...
I WONDER WHAT I NEED
BUT
WHAT WAS AJINO ABOUT TO SAY THAT TIME ?
KAI!
IF ANY-THING'S TROU-BLING YOU...
D-
COME TO MY CHEST ANY TIME ♡
I'LL LOOK OVER HERE

ショパンを弾くために END

Chapter 18

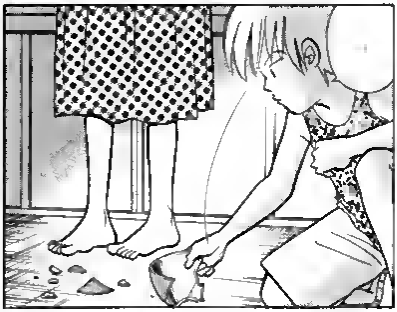
To Play Chopin (2)


!
ガシャン

HOW MANY DISHES DO YOU THINK YOU BROKE!?
IDIOT!

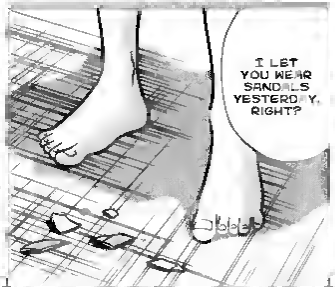
HOW MANY DOES THAT MAKE!?
ERM, ERM,
ONE BOWL JUST NOW.
TWO CUPS AND ONE PLATE FROM YESTER-DAY!
YOU'RE SKIPPING YOUR MEAL TO-MORROW
ARISA!
YOU BROKE FOUR DISHES
FOUR!
DUNNO
WE HAVE TO WORK FOR IT.
IF WE WANT FOOD...
SIH

THAT'S WHY I SAID WASHING DISHES IS TOO MUCH FOR ARISA!
I THOUGHT SHE COULD TAKE OUT THE TRASH
THEN WHAT ELSE CAN SHE DO? SHE CAN'T EVEN GO BUY ANYTHING
EEEH, SHE CAN?



THAT ASIDE
WHY ARE YOU BARE-FOOTED?

...


I LET YOU WEAR SANDALS YESTERDAY, RIGHT?

WHERE DID YOU LEAVE THEM?
WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE SANDALS?

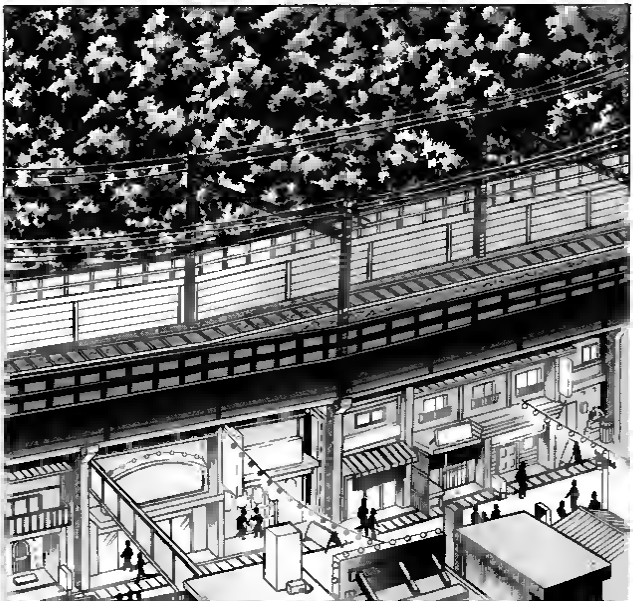
ARI-CHAN DUNNO WHERE SHE LEFT HER SANDALS

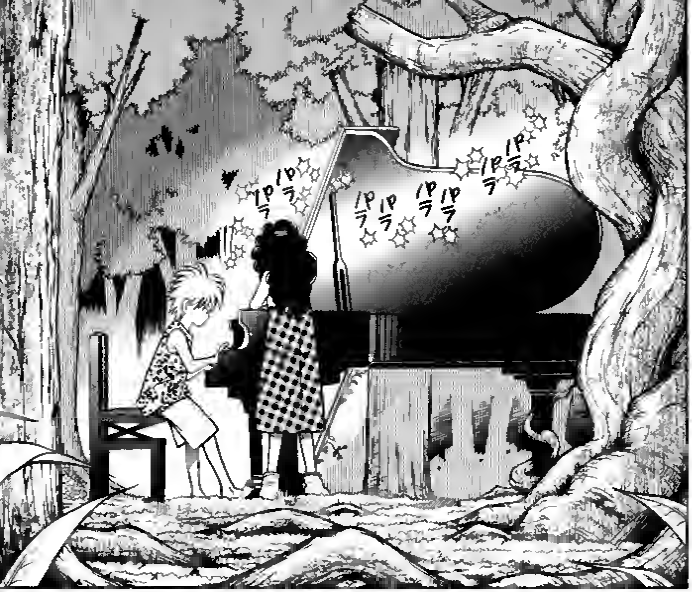
DUNNO

ARISA ISN'T ABLE TO DO NORMAL THINGS NATURALLY
AH HA HA HA
MAYBE SOMEONE TOOK THEM
LIKE A DOG OR A CAT
PU
I DON'T KNOW...
WHY I CAN'T PLAY IT
KRRAI
ARISA! DON'T GET IN KAI'S WAY!
MAYBE IT'S THE SAME AS ME NOT BEING ABLE TO PLAY CHOPIN NOW

I CAN'T PLAY IT NOW
NO
HEEEY, HEEEY
LET'S GO TO THE FOREST!
I WANT TO LISTEN TO YOUR PIANO
I REALLY CAN'T PLAY IT!
SHUSH!
YOU'RE GOOD AT IT
AH HA HA SURE YOU CAN

ARE YOU OPEN YET!?
KYAAAH, WE ARE, WE ARE
WELCOME ♡
KYAAAH
OH SHIT!



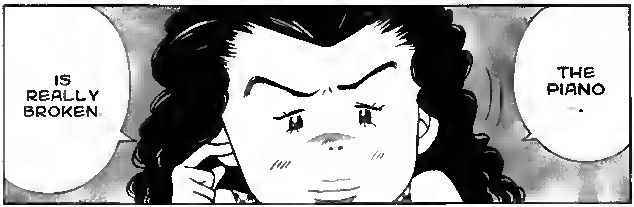

パラ
パラ
パラ

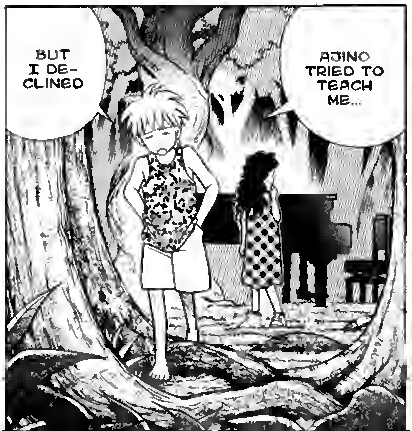
KAI
POOR KAI
TOLD YOU.
I CAN'T PLAY IT...
NO.
THE PIANO FINALLY BROKE DOWN
...
I JUST CAN'T PLAY CHOPIN
SO IT'S NOT CAUSE OF THE PIANO
THE PIANO SOUNDS OKAY WITH OTHER PIECES

WHAT KIND OF BREAD IS CHOPIN?
I NEVER ATE THAT
AH HA HA HA WHAT AN IDIOT
I'VE NEVER EATEN THAT BEFORE, EITHER
CHOPIN IS SOMEONE'S NAME!
A TEACHER NAMED AJINO PLAYED HIS SONG FOR ME.
AJINO SENSEI
HE'S A COMPOSER THAT LOOKS LIKE THIS—
PUUU!
THAT PIECE WAS SO AMAZING
AND IT MADE ME WANT TO PLAY IT SO BADLY

パラパラパラ

...
WHEN I PLAYED IT I GOT THIS
パラパラパラ

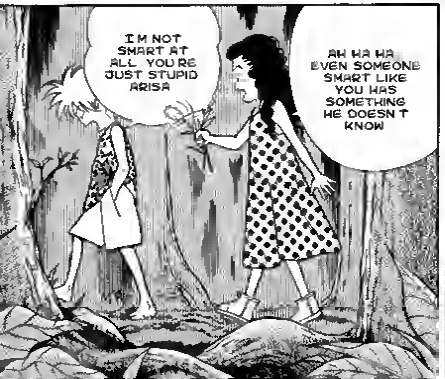

IS REALLY BROKEN
THE PIANO .


BUT I DE-CLINED
AJINO TRIED TO TEACH ME...

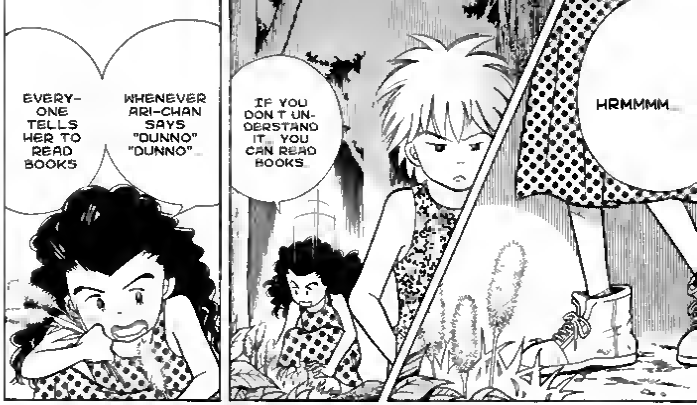
THERE'S SOME OTHER METHOD TO PLAY CHOPIN'S PIECES
I TOLD YOU IT'S NOT
SOME-THING THAT I HAVE TO LEARN

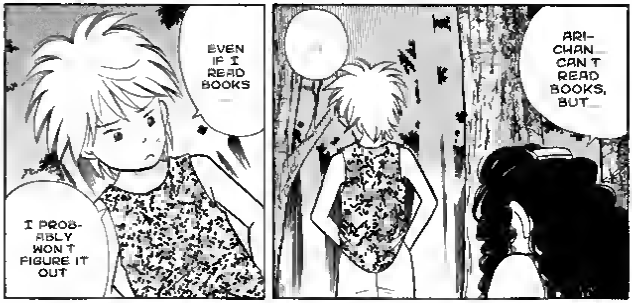
I REALLY WANT TO PLAY IT!!
NOW THAT I KNOW I CAN'T...
AAAAH I WANT TO PLAY IT!!

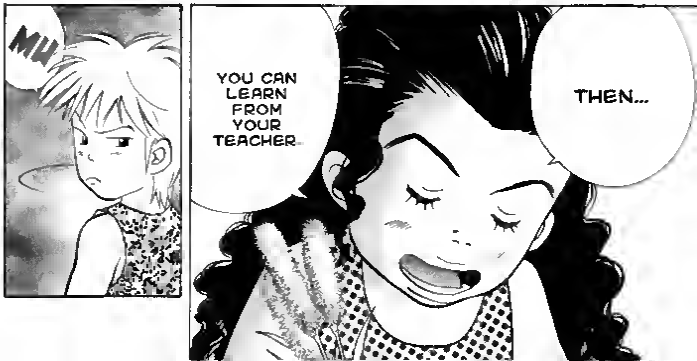
NAH, A HAIRY CATER-PILLAR!
HERE
I SHOULD HAVE LEARNED IT
...BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW.


I'M NOT SMART AT ALL. YOU'RE JUST STUPID ARISA
AH HA HA EVEN SOMEONE SMART LIKE YOU HAS SOMETHING HE DOESN'T KNOW

DON'T WANT IT
SO YOU'LL FEEL BETTER
I'LL GIVE YOU THIS

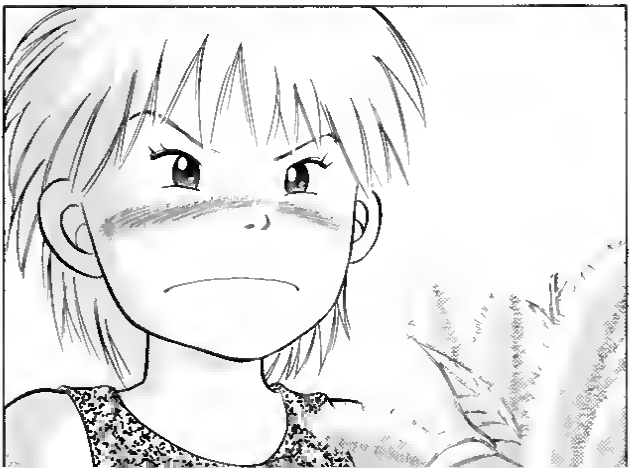

EVERY-ONE TELLS HER TO READ BOOKS
WHENEVER ARI-CHAN SAYS "DUNNO" "DUNNO"
IF YOU DON'T UN-DERSTAND IT, YOU CAN READ BOOKS
HRMMMM


EVEN IF I READ BOOKS
I PROB-ABLY WON'T FIGURE IT OUT
ARI-CHAN CAN'T READ BOOKS, BUT

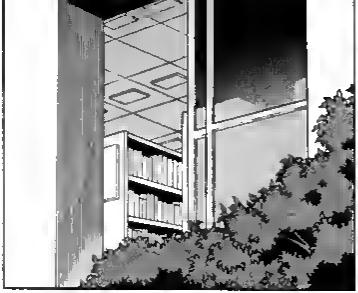

MU
YOU CAN LEARN FROM YOUR TEACHER
THEN...

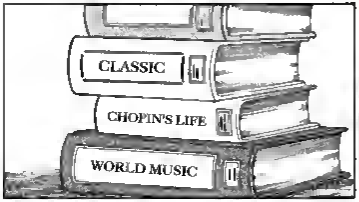
WHAT?
PU PU
AH HA HA
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF LEARNING HOW TO PLAY THE PIANO FROM ANYONE!
LISTEN YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING SO DON'T SAY STUPID THINGS
HALF CRYING
YOU SAID "I SHOULD'VE LEARNED IT!"
BUT THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID EARLIER, KA!

IF YOU WANT TO PLAY IT THAT MUCH, JUST LEARN IT.



THEN ARI-CHAN GETS TO HEAR IT, TOO
KAI'S CHOPIN.



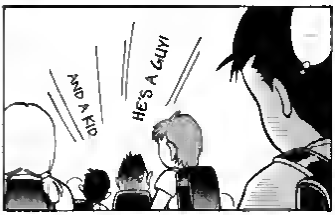


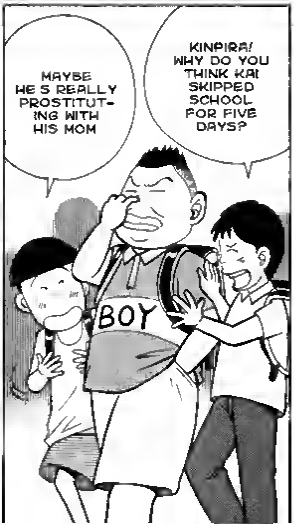
* SIGN: LIBRARY

GENERAL ROMANTIC SCHOOL IS...
ROMANTIC THIS TIME?
SELF HID
MARAN ALL THESE KANJI I CAN'T READ
...
...
I DON'T GET IT!

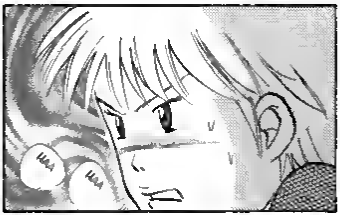
ワイワイ
ワイワイ

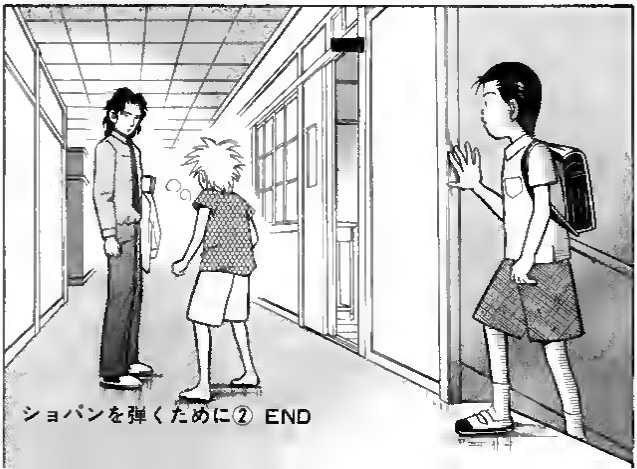
I'LL KILL HIM IF IT'S TRUE
BAS-TARD


HE'S A GUY!
AND A KID


KINPIRA! WHY DO YOU THINK KAI SKIPPED SCHOOL FOR FIVE DAYS?
MAYBE HE'S REALLY PROSTITUT-ING WITH HIS MOM
BOY

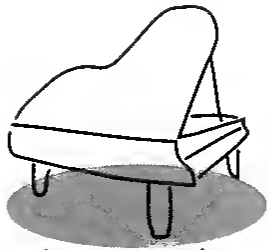
SUCH INDECENT GUYS
KAI-KUN, TOO.
HE KEEPS SKIPPING SCHOOL SO
WHA-
ざゃはははは
EH!?
!
KA-
KAI-KUN!?
MOON BEAM ELEMENTARY





ショパンを弾くために② END

Musashi
barbapapa
ocean

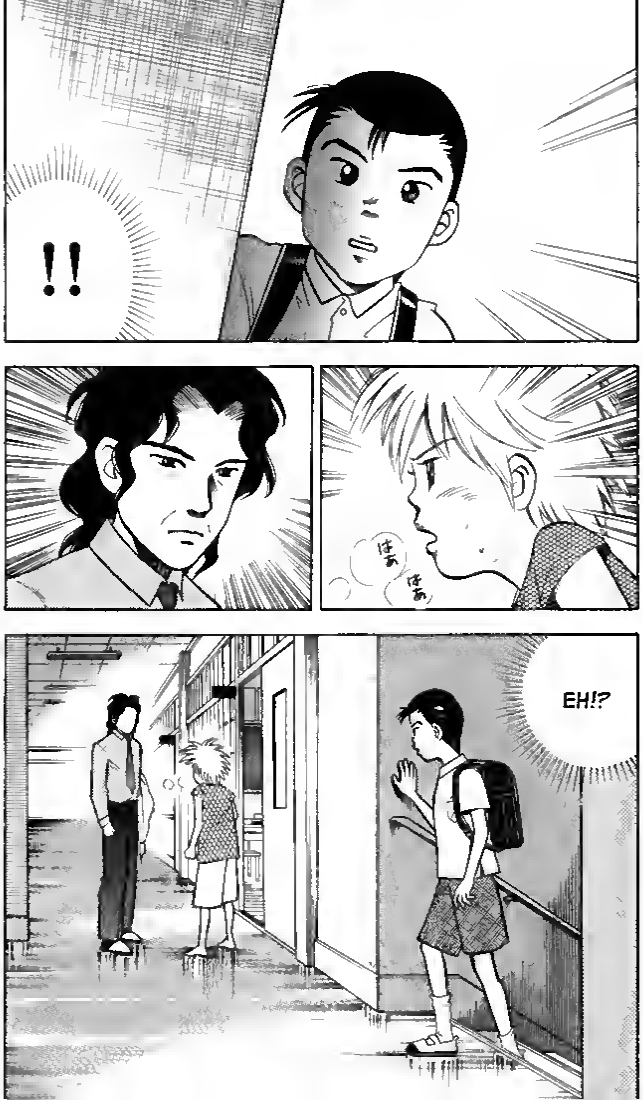


The Perfect World of KAI

Reimu

KEFI

Chapter 19
To Play Chopin (3)


!!
はあ
はあ
EH!?

AH...
WHY IS HE SEEING AJINO-SENSEI!?
K-KAJ-KUN...
COULD HE BE LEARNING PIANO..!?
WHY DO I HAVE TO LEARN IT FROM THAT DICK_?
WHY DO I HAVE TO LEARN PIANO FROM AJINO!?
DON'T BE SILLY —!!

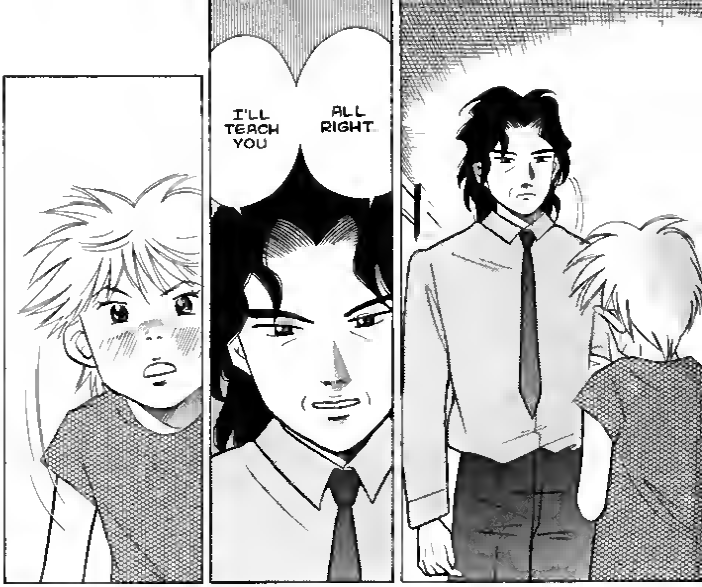
...
IMPOS-
SIBLE
KAI HATED HIM SO MUCH
WHAT'S GOING ON?
ICHI-
NOSE
CHOPIN
SEN-
SEI!

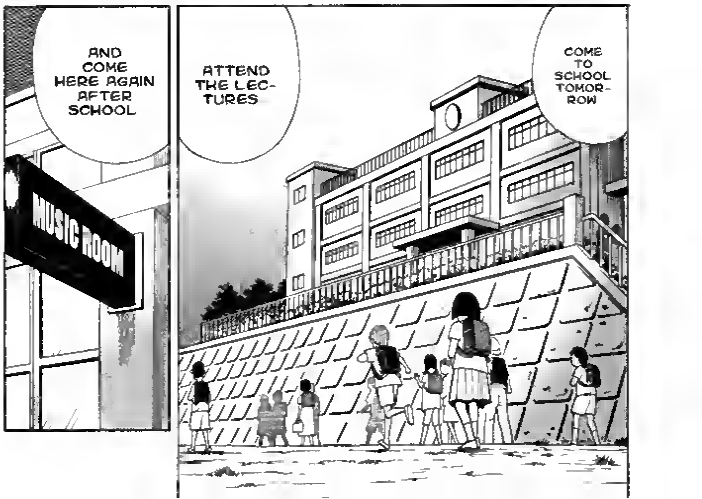
PLEASE TEACH ME CHOPIN
MUSIC ROOM

!!
!
EH!?
KA...
KAI-
KUN!?

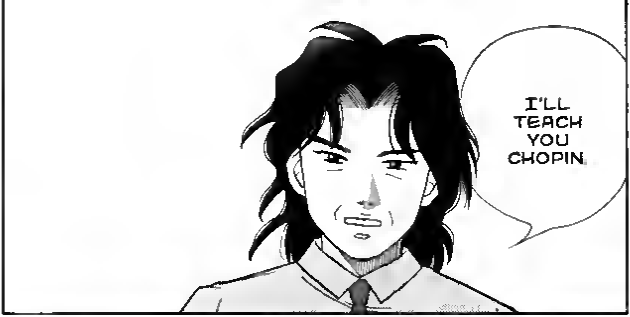
I KNEW IT.
YOU WANTED TO LEARN HOW TO PLAY THE PIANO FROM AJINO-SENSEI, KAI-KUN!!
HE REALLY HATED THE IDEA...
WHEN I SUGGESTED THAT...
I CAN'T PLAY...
BUT HE ACTUALLY WANTED TO LEARN!!

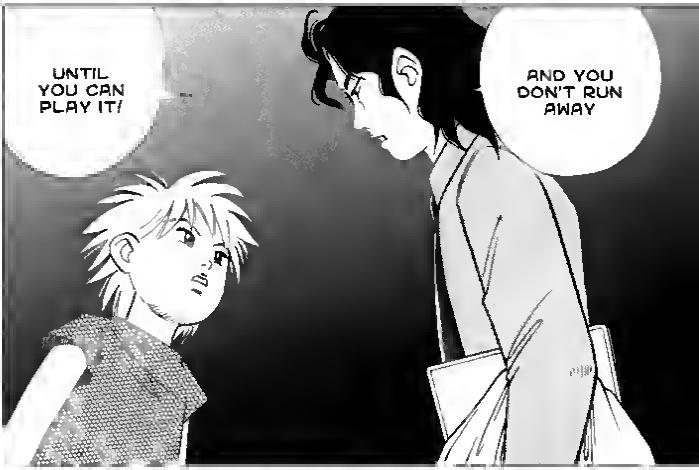
I CAN'T PLAY
"MINUTE WALTZ"
I CAN PLAY ALL OTHER PIECES...
BUT NOT CHOPIN ...
HE CAN'T PLAY ...
... CHOPIN ?
I CAN'T PLAY IT...
BUT I REALLY WANT TO.
IF YOU TEACH ME...
I'M SURE I'LL BE ABLE TO PLAY CHOPIN.


I'LL TEACH YOU
ALL RIGHT

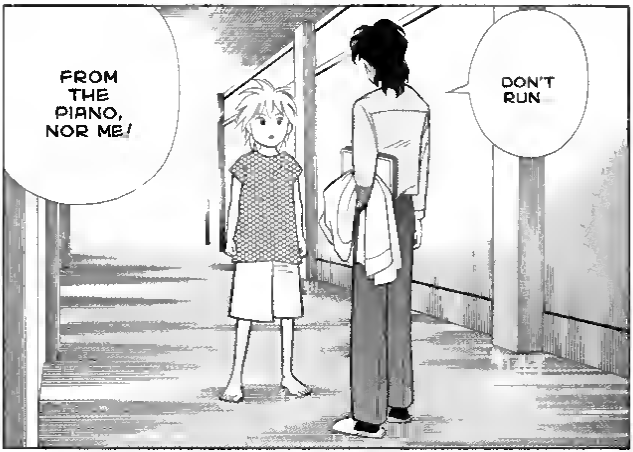

AND COME HERE AGAIN AFTER SCHOOL
MUSIC ROOM
ATTEND THE LEC-TURES
COME TO SCHOOL TOMOR-ROW

I DON'T HAVE MONEY!
BUT THEN...
?
...
SO I WANT SOME KIND OF DEAL OTHER THAN MONEY.
...BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE TAUGHT FOR FREE!
I DON'T HAVE MONEY TO PAY FOR THE LESSON
OKAY THEN, WE'LL MAKE SOME OTHER KIND OF DEAL


I'LL TEACH YOU CHOPIN.

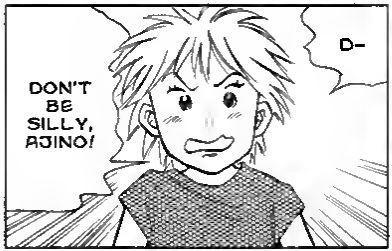

UNTIL YOU CAN PLAY IT!
AND YOU DON'T RUN AWAY

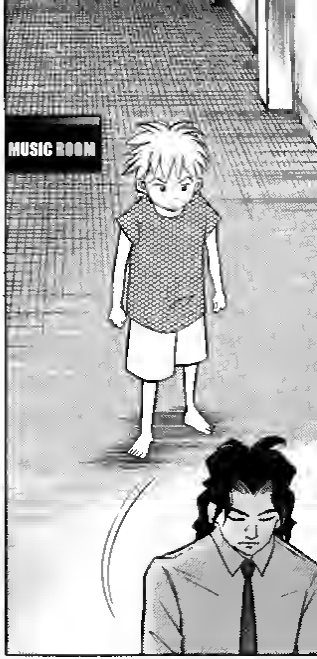
EH!?

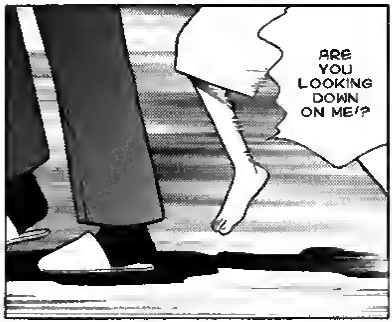

FROM THE PIANO, NOR ME!
DON'T RUN

NOW THE DEAL IS CLOSED

AH


D-
DON'T BE SILLY, AJINO!


MUSIC ROOM


ARE YOU LOOKING DOWN ON ME!?

THE PIANO IS LIKE A TOY FOR ME!
THAT DEAL DOESN'T WORK!

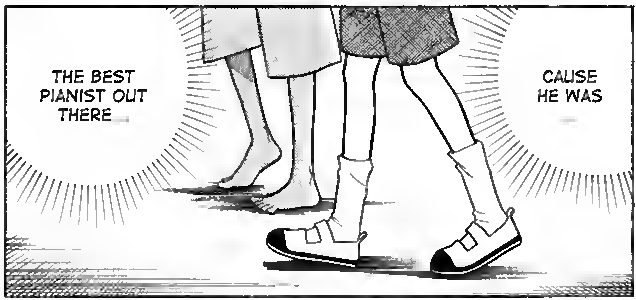
I WON'T RUN AWAY !!

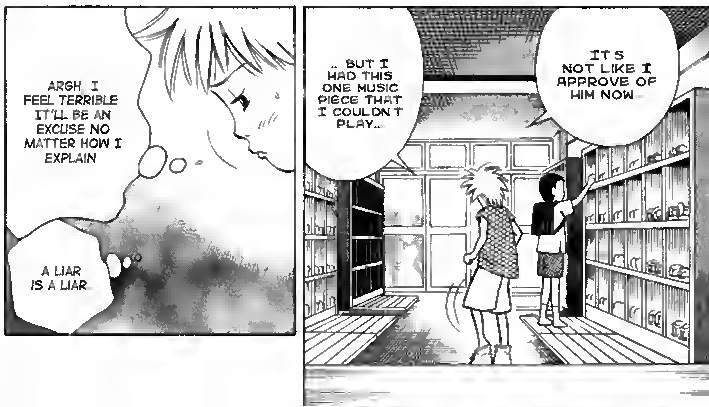
BUT YOU'RE SUFFERING BECAUSE YOU CAN'T PLAY THAT TOY, RIGHT?
AH...
TOMORROW FOR A START COME DON'T RUN AWAY
SHIT!
IT'S JUST AJINO.
...
ペた
ペた

WAH !!
AH...
AAAAH YOU SURPRISED ME
AAAAH I'M GLAD IT'S YOU
WHA-
WHAT THE IT'S YOU, AMAMIYA

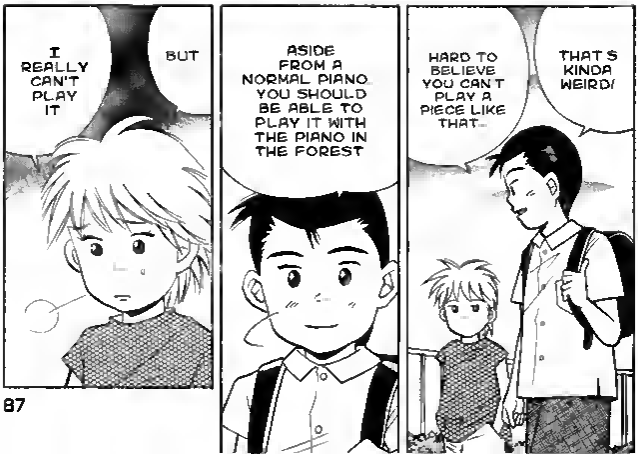
I DIDN'T INTEND TO EAVES-DROP...
BUT I HEARD...
I'M SORRY, KAI-KUN
I SAW YOU GOING INTO THE SCHOOL WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO GO HOME, SO
I WAS WORRIED CAUSE YOU SKIPPED SCHOOL FIVE DAYS IN A ROW...
I BAD-MOUTHED AJINO SO MUCH, BUT NOW I'M THE BIGGEST LIAR THERE IS
UHYAAAH, I'M SO LAME...
ふぅ...
IT'S JUST LIKE ALWAYS. I WAS SLACKING OFF
MAAAN, SORRY, SORRY...

OF COURSE HE APPROVES!
YOU SEE YOU WERE SAYING SOMETHING LIKE YOU DON'T APPROVE AGINO OR SOMETHING
I'M REALLY HAPPY
THAT YOU'RE LEARNING HOW TO PLAY THE PIANO FROM AGINO-SENSEI
BUT I'M GLAD

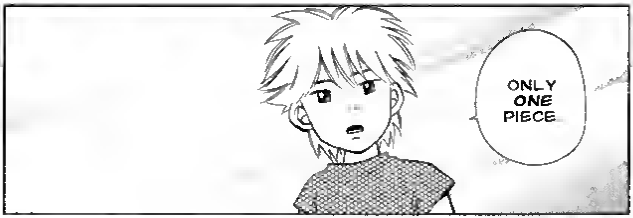

THE BEST PIANIST OUT THERE
CAUSE HE WAS


ARGH, I FEEL TERRIBLE IT'LL BE AN EXCUSE NO MATTER HOW I EXPLAIN
A LIAR IS A LIAR
.. BUT I HAD THIS ONE MUSIC PIECE THAT I COULDN'T PLAY..
IT'S NOT LIKE I APPROVE OF HIM NOW

AH YOU MEAN "MINUTE WALTZ," RIGHT?
BY CHOPIN?

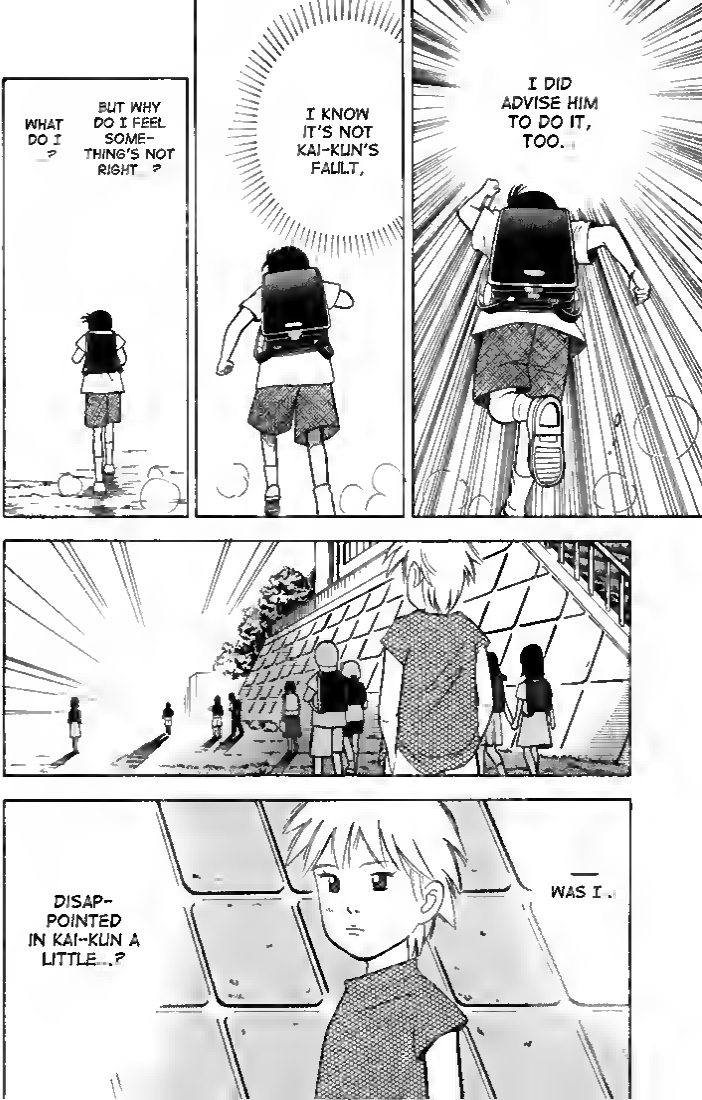

THAT'S KINDA WEIRD!
HARD TO BELIEVE YOU CAN'T PLAY A PIECE LIKE THAT...
ASIDE FROM A NORMAL PIANO YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO PLAY IT WITH THE PIANO IN THE FOREST
BUT
I REALLY CAN'T PLAY IT

AS LONG AS I GET HOW TO PLAY CHOPIN.
NO KIDDING... I DON'T PLAN TO BE TAUGHT BY HIM FOREVER.
WHETHER IT'S TRUE OR NOT...
IT MADE YOU WANT TO LEARN THE PIANO FROM AJINO-SENSEI, SO IT'S A GOOD THING!
ELEMENTARY MUDIWAKI

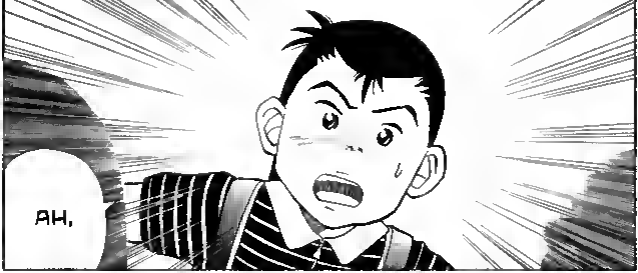

ONLY ONE PIECE

IT'S A GOOD THING!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, IT'S ALL RIGHT!

ALL RIGHT?
SEE YA TOMORROW THEN!
ダッ
TO GET ANGRY!!
THERE'S NO NEED FOR ME
THEN EVERYTHING SHOULD BE OKAY!!
IF IT'S A GOOD THING...


I DID ADVISE HIM TO DO IT, TOO.
I KNOW IT'S NOT KAI-KUN'S FAULT,
BUT WHY DO I FEEL SOME-THING'S NOT RIGHT...?
WHAT DO I...?
WAS I...
DISAP-POINTED IN KAI-KUN A LITTLE...?

ドドドドド
— AND THE NEXT DAY —...
A FIGHT, A FIGHT.
A FIGHT IN CLASS 5-3.
KAI AND KINPIRA GOT INTO A BIG SCUFFLE!!
ドドド
EH?
ダッ!!


AH,

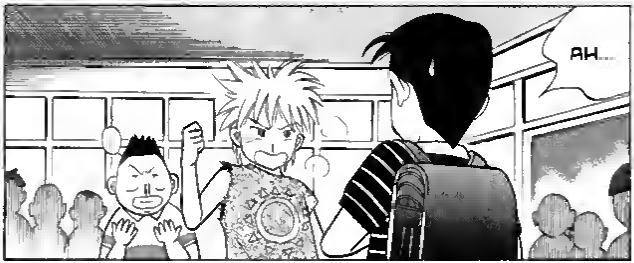
KAI-
KUN!!

THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSI-NESS!
THERE'S A RUMOR THAT YOU CUT SCHOOL TO PROSTI-TUTE WITH YOUR MOM!!
DON'T PLAY INNO-CENT!!
SHUT UP, PIG!!
JUST IGNORE HIM!
KAI-KUN,
ANSWER ME, PROSTITUTE BRAT!!
TAKE THIS, FAT-ASS!!

!!?
KAI-KUN!!
THIS IS NO TIME FOR YOU TO GET INTO A FIGHT!!
KAI-KUN, YOU SHOULDN'T USE YOUR HANDS
BRING IT ON.
STRANGLE ME, IF YOU WILL.
WHA-
I'M STRANGLING THIS PIG TODAY.
LET GO OF ME, AMAMIYA!!

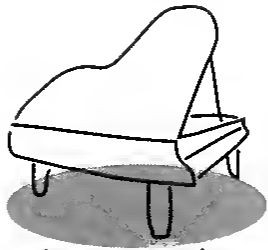
YOU'RE TAKING A LESSON FROM AJINO-SENSEI TODAY!!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, KAI-KUN!? DID YOU FORGET!?
?
?
?
?
IF YOU HURT YOUR HAND, IT'D BE A MESS!!
THEN, YOU WON'T FIGHT ANY MORE, WILL YOU?
LET GO OF ME, AMAMIYA
THIS HAND... IS NOT A HAND FOR FIGHTS ANY MORE.

I SAID LET GO OF ME!!
I CAN DO WHAT-EVER I WANT WITH MY HANDS !!


AH...

KAI-KU-
...?
ショパンを弾くために3 END

Musashi
barbapapa
ocean



The Perfect World of KAI

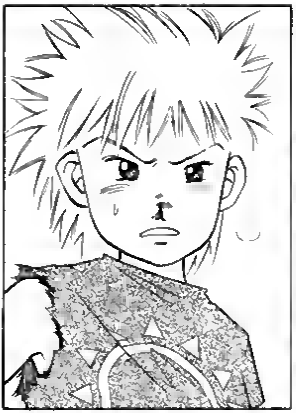
Reimu

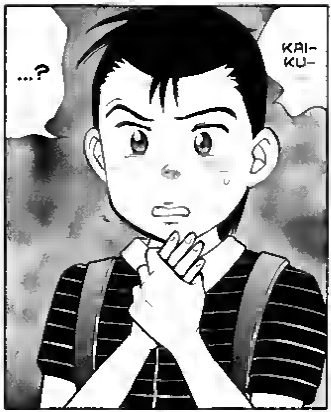
KEFI

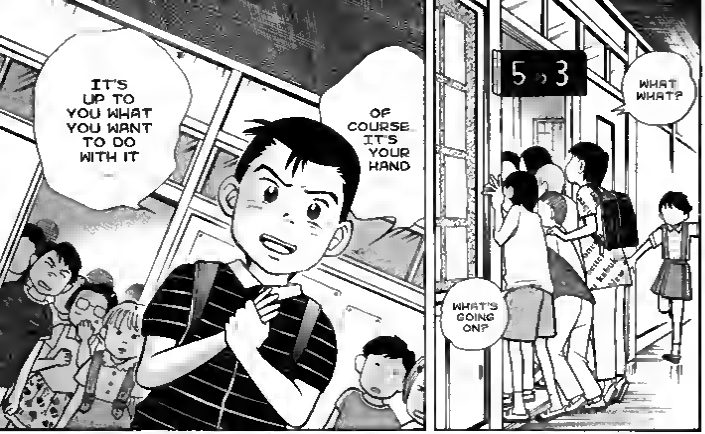
Chapter 20 Start the Lesson

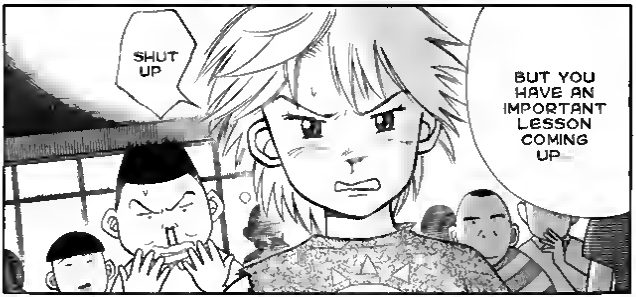
Reimu&KEF scanned by Musashi edited by barbapapa translated by Ocean

AH.

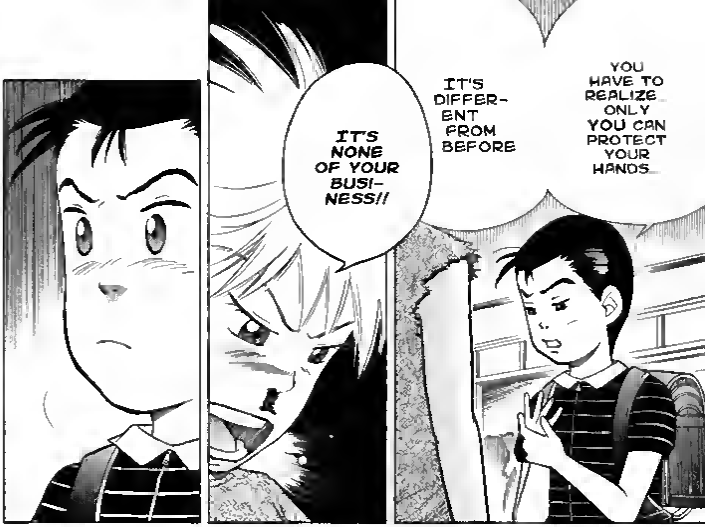



...?
KAI-
KU-


IT'S UP TO YOU WHAT YOU WANT TO DO WITH IT
OF COURSE IT'S YOUR HAND
5-3
WHAT WHAT?
WHAT'S GOING ON?


SHUT UP
BUT YOU HAVE AN IMPORTANT LESSON COMING UP

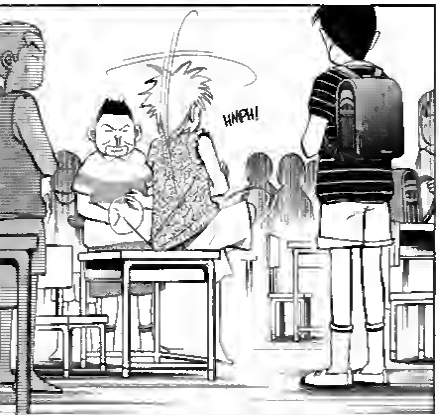
I SAID SHUT UP
IF YOU FIGHT AND HURT YOUR HANDS,
?
?


YOU HAVE TO REALIZE... ONLY YOU CAN PROTECT YOUR HANDS...
IT'S DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!!

I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT YOU...
IF YOU WANT TO WORRY, WORRY ABOUT YOURSELF, AMAMIYA !!

WHY DON'T YOU PROTECT YOUR SOFT, GIRLY HANDS FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!?
IF HANDS ARE SO IMPOR-TANT...

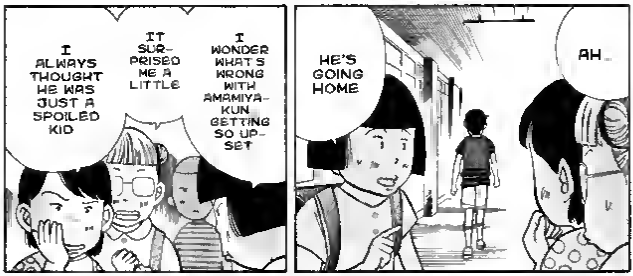
AH...


HNPH!

OKAY
I'LL DO THAT

I'LL JUST WORRY ABOUT MYSELF FROM NOW ON

A-
AMAMIYA-
KUN!
ASH


I ALWAYS THOUGHT HE WAS JUST A SPOILED KID
IT SUR-PRISED ME A LITTLE
I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG WITH AMAMIYA-KUN. GETTING SO UP-SET
HE'S GOING HOME
AH...

T-
TELL MEEE !!

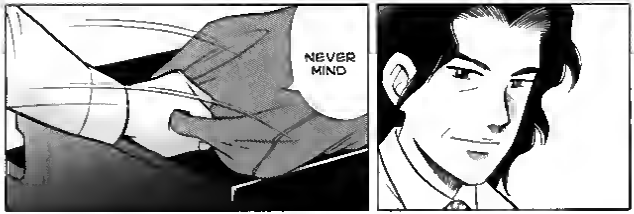
HEY, KAI!! WHAT'S THIS LESSON ABOUT!?
I DON'T KNOW !!
WHAT'S THIS LESSON ABOUT!? I WANNA KNOW!!
C-COULD IT BE A PIANO LESSON ?
EEEH KAI!?
CAUSE HANDS ARE IMPORTANT FOR THAT RIGHT ?
CAN'T BE I NEVER KNEW ABOUT THAT
KAI ~~~!!
SPEAK UP!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH AMAMIYA BEHIND MY BACK!?
I HAVE NOTHING TO TELL YOU!!
YOU DICK FLUT-TERING BAS-TARD !!
BU

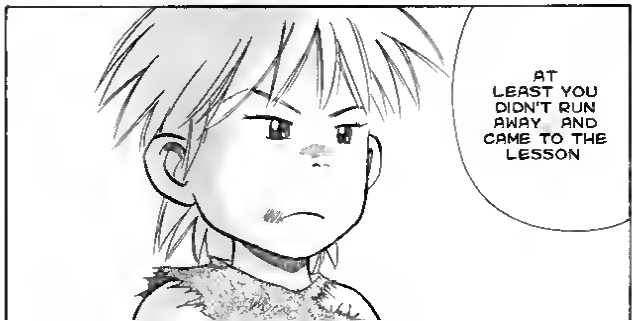
ドドド
ドドドド
STOP FIGHTING !!
H-HEY !!
キ
カーン コーン

MUSIC ROOM

…
ガラ

YOU HAD A FIGHT ?
YOU LOOK REALLY HEROIC


NEVER MIND


AT LEAST YOU DIDN'T RUN AWAY AND CAME TO THE LESSON

I FOUND A PRAC-TICE ROOM FOR YOU
?
THEN LET'S GO, ICHI-NOSE!
...

HEY, AJINO

I DON'T HAVE MONEY, BUT I DON'T PLAN TO GET TAUGHT FOR FREE.
MAKE A "PROPER DEAL" WITH ME
SENSEI!
IT'S AJINO-SENSEI!

YOU ALREADY TOLD ME THAT YESTERDAY
I WON'T RUN AWAY, NEITHER FROM YOU NOR THE PIANO! SO IT'S NOT A VALID DEAL
YOU TOLD ME THAT YESTERDAY TOO
WHY DON'T YOU SAY SOMETHING NEW?
YOU SEE, A "DEAL" MUST BE PROFITABLE FOR BOTH PARTIES...
AH...
THAT'S SOMETHING NEW
AND YOU'VE PREPARED A PRACTICE ROOM FOR ME NOW I'M BENEFITING MORE THAN YOU...

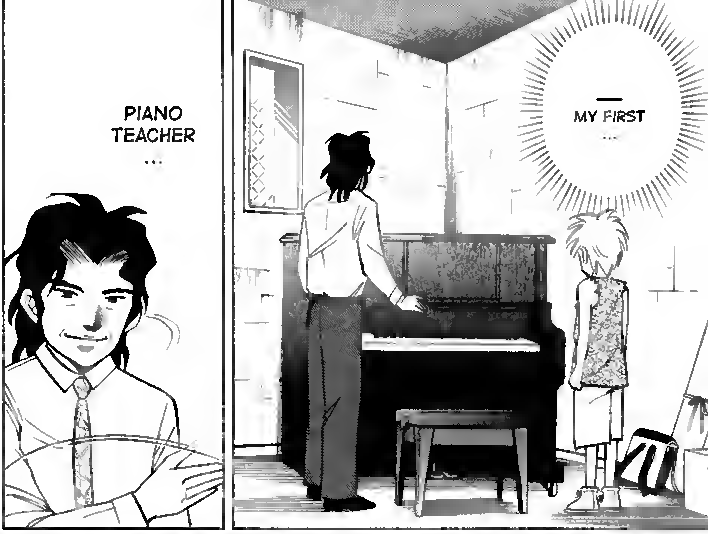
WHETHER IT BENEFITS YOU OR NOT, WE NEED A PRACTICE ROOM
YOU SAID I'VE "PREPARED," BUT...
IT'S JUST THE MANAGER OF MY DORM...
光玉寮
HRMMM
AJINO LIVES HERE, HUH...
ICHI-NOSE!
THE PRACTICE ROOM IS RIGHT THERE

I'LL BE TAUGHT HOW TO PLAY THE PIANO BY SOMEONE FOR THE FIRST TIME.

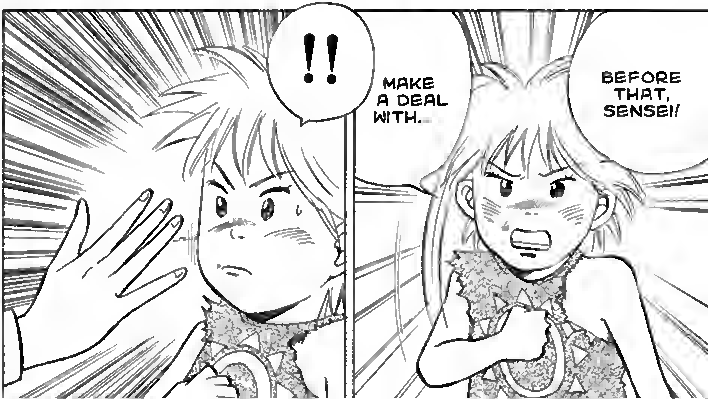
SO THIS HAS BEEN A STORAGE ROOM FOR A LONG TIME
I WAS GOING TO HAVE MY DAUGHTER LEARN HOW TO PLAY BUT SHE GAVE UP RIGHT AWAY...

THE ROOM IS VERY SOUND-PROOF. SO USE IT AS MUCH AS YOU WANT

I'M GLAD IT CAN BE USED AGAIN
I FIXED IT UP ANYWAY
AOINO-SENSEI ALREADY THANKED ME ENOUGH FOR THREE PEOPLE YESTER-DAY
AH, NO, NO! DON'T WORRY ABOUT THANKING ME!
AH...
MY FIRST LESSON!
MY FIRST PRACTICE ROOM!
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO PLAY THIS TYPE OF PIANO
IT'S AN UP-LIGHT PIANO ♡


PIANO TEACHER ...
— MY FIRST ...

TRY IT OUT.
ICHI-NOSE.


!!
MAKE A DEAL WITH.
BEFORE THAT, SENSEI!

AND WHEN YOU ARE ABLE TO PLAY CHOPIN
IF YOU REALLY DON'T RUN AWAY
?
AND...
OF COURSE SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T COST YOU ANY MONEY. SOMETHING YOU CAN DO.
THEN WE'LL MAKE A DEAL
IS THAT ALL RIGHT?
SOME-THING THAT BENE-FITS ME.

PON
PON
PON
POOOHN
しぇろぉ…
PON
PON
PON
PON
YOUR FINGERS WILL TEACH YOU THE "DEGREE."
AS YOU PLAY MORE OFTEN YOU'LL GET USED TO "NORMAL PIANOS."
PON
PON
THAT SOUNDS GOOD FOR NOW
SO MEMO-RIZE THE SOUND.
I'LL PLAY A "FINGER PRAC-TICE PIECE."
NOW ICHI-NOSE...

PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
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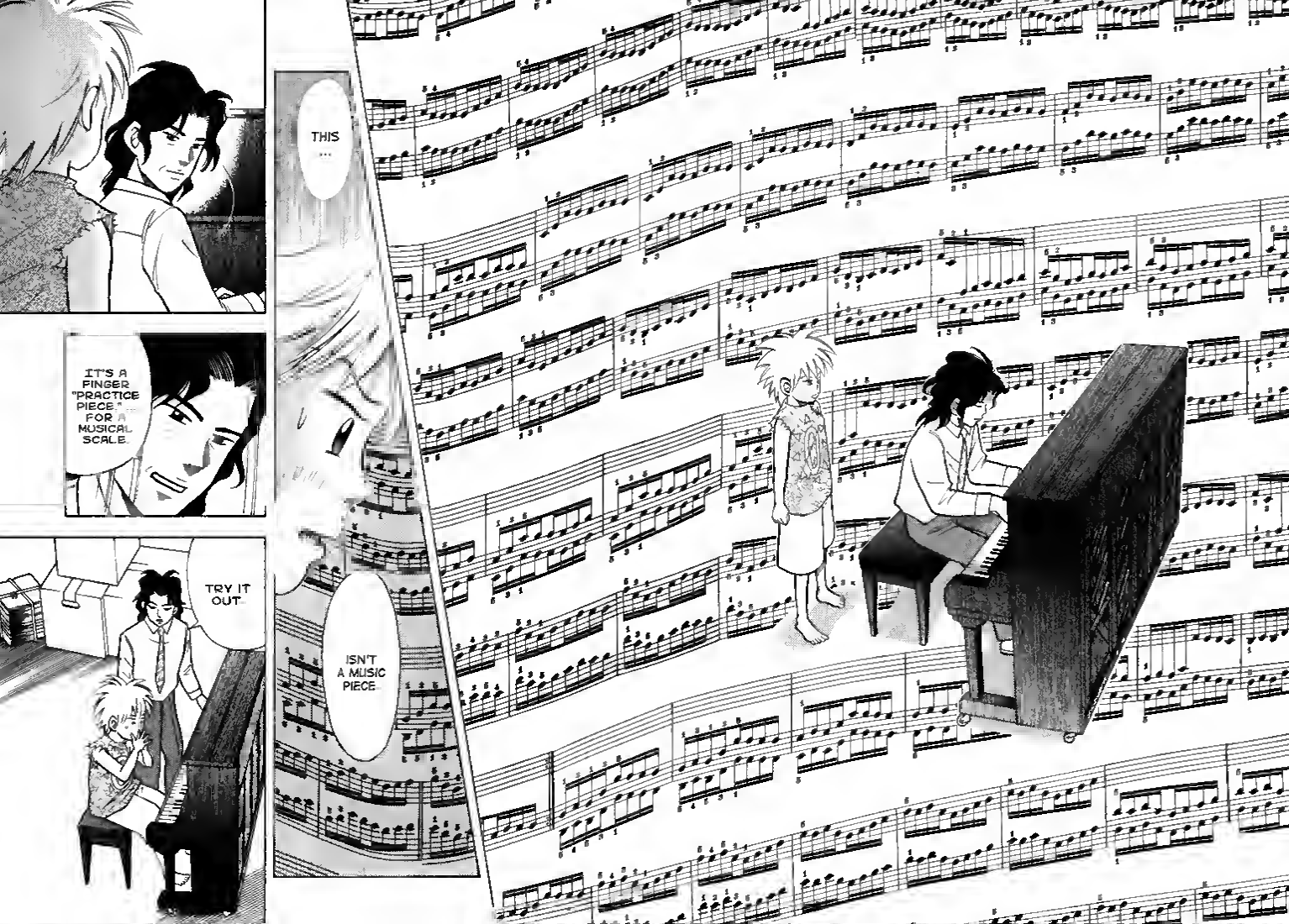
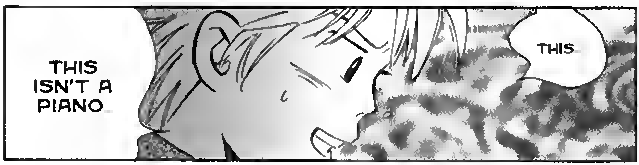
PON
PON
EH?

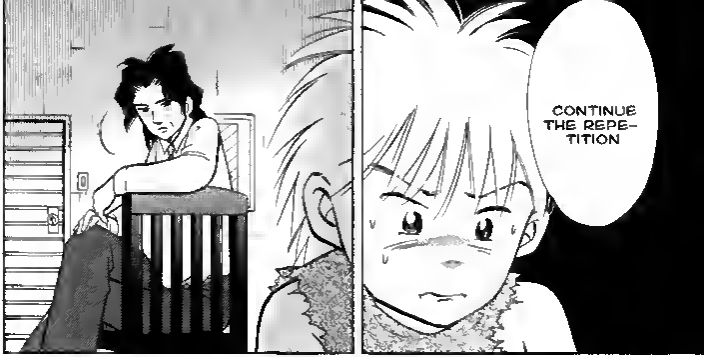

IT'S A FINGER "PRACTICE PIECE." FOR A MUSICAL SCALE.
THIS ...
ISN'T A MUSIC PIECE.
TRY IT OUT.

YOU CAN PLAY SLOWLY AT FIRST. JUST CONTINUE
THAT'S GOOD.
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
KEEP THE SOUND


THIS ISN'T A PIANO
THIS

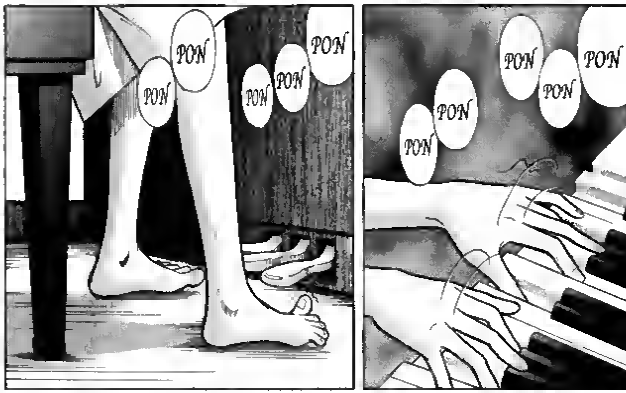
IT'S VERY MONO-TONOUS
IT'S AN EXERCISE FOR THE FIN-GERS
PLAYING THE SAME PHRASE OVER AND OVER AFTER CHANGING THE SCALE
FOR YOU
MAYBE IT ISN'T

PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
AND IT'S NOT LIKE IT HAS A MELODY
SO YOU CAN'T REALLY BECOME EMO-TIONAL
FOR YOU, WHO HAS NEVER DONE THE BASICS,
IT'S THE MOST UNENJOYABLE PART OF PLAYING THE PIANO
CONTINUE PLAYING
UNTIL I SAY ENOUGH
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON


CONTINUE THE REPE-TITION

HOW IS IT, ICHI-NOSE?
YOU CAN STILL RUN.

レッスン開始 END


PON
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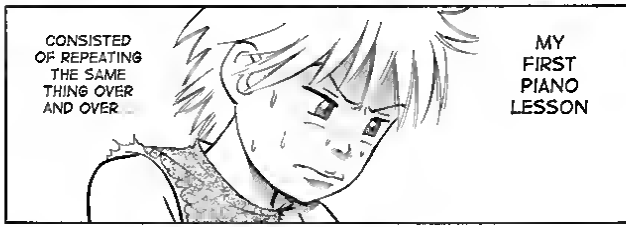
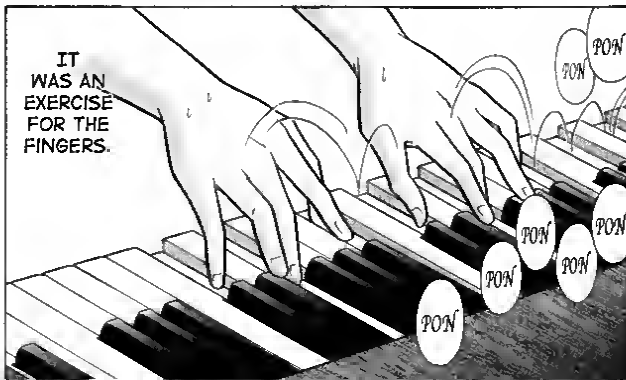

CONSISTED OF REPEATING THE SAME THING OVER AND OVER...
MY FIRST PIANO LESSON


IT WAS AN EXERCISE FOR THE FINGERS.
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON

"CONTINUE THE REPETITION."
NO
NO
NO
NO
NO
TON
TON
TON
TON
TON
TON
TON
"CONTINUE PLAYING...
UNTIL I SAY ENOUGH."
TON
TON
TON
TON
TON
TON

DO THIS!?
UNTIL I SAY ENOUGH."
"CONTINUE THE REPETITION."
HOW CAN I
MY BRAIN IS
GOING NUTS...
THE KEYS ARE CROOKED
THE KEYS... LOOK YELLOW NOW

UWAAAH.
UGH
にげよう

Chapter 21 Repeat

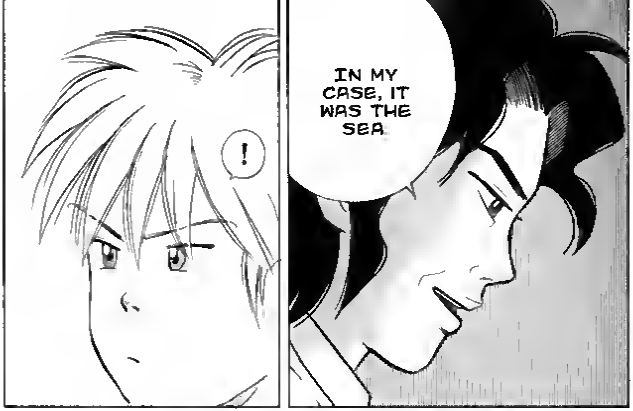
...
WHAT'S WRONG, ICHINOSE?
ARE YOU OKAY?
CAN YOU CONTINUE?

I CAN DO IT!
I I CAN DO IT, BUT HOW WOULD THIS HELP ?
I JUST WANT TO BE ABLE TO PLAY CHOPIN
THIS IS HOW YOU PRAC-TICE FOR THAT
IF YOU CAN DO IT, CONCEN-TRATE WITHOUT THINKING OF OTHER THINGS
BASTARD
I START TO FEEL ILL BEFORE THAT
EVEN IF I WANT TO CONCEN TRATE
カッ

ICHI-
NOSE.
WHAT IS YOUR MOST FA-VORITE PLACE?
...
IT CAN BE YOUR FAVORITE SCENERY, TOO
OR MAYBE A FANTASY WORLD.
IT CAN BE ANY-WHERE THAT'LL CALM YOU DOWN.
FIRST, CLOSE YOUR EYES AND IMAGINE IT...

YOU'RE IN THAT SCENERY
YOU HAVE A PIANO IN FRONT OF YOU.
... YES, IMAGINE THAT.

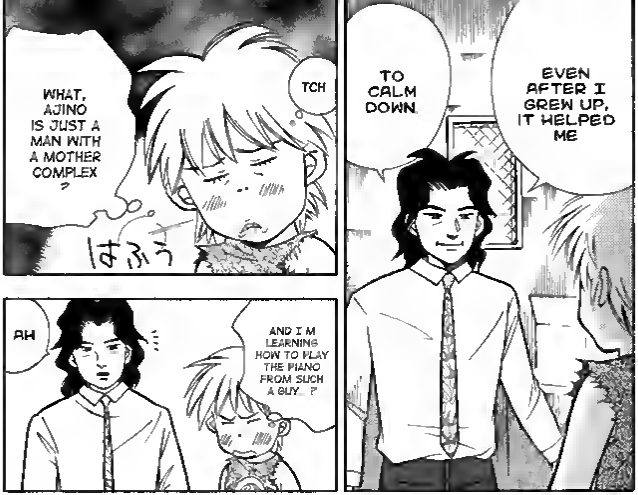
THEN, YOU CAN CALM DOWN AND DEVOTE YOUR EARS TO THE SOUND
YOU CAN CONCEN-TRATE ON THE SOUND
THAT'S JUST A TRICK FOR KIDS
DON'T SAY IT LIKE THAT.
I USED THIS METHOD OFTEN, TOO


!
IN MY CASE, IT WAS THE SEA.

I GREW UP NEAR THE SEA.

THAT WAS...
IN A HOUSE FILLED WITH THE SMELL OF SEA WATER
I ALWAYS PLAYED THE PIANO

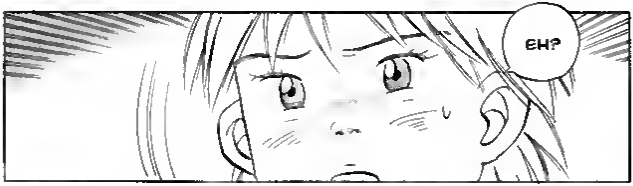
A PIANO FOR MY MOTHER TO LISTEN TO...
AND I WAS MOST PEACEFUL BACK THEN.


WHAT, AJINO IS JUST A MAN WITH A MOTHER COMPLEX ?
TCH
はふう
EVEN AFTER I GREW UP, IT HELPED ME
TO CALM DOWN
AH
AND I'M LEARNING HOW TO PLAY THE PIANO FROM SUCH A GUY... ?

THE KANJI IN YOUR NAME IS "SEA," TOO, HUH?
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, ICHI-NOSE...
HA HA

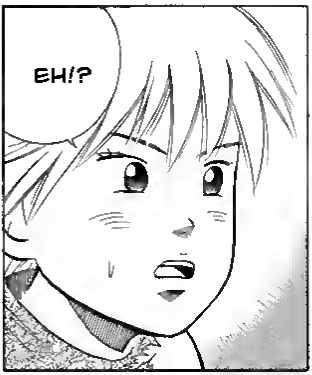
...
I HATE THE SEA
I..

YOU GO HOME BEFORE IT GETS DARK, TOO, OKAY?
WELL, I'M GOING BACK HOME NOW,
IT'S JUST A METHOD TO HELP YOU CONCEN-TRATE
I SEE
IT CAN BE ANY-WHERE

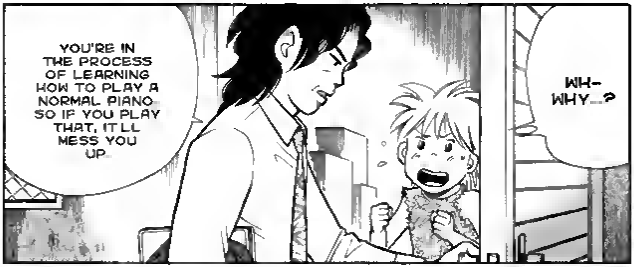

EH?

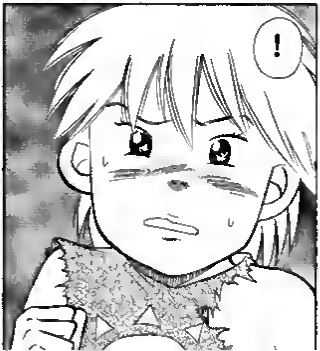
I...
WHAT ABOUT THE LESSON ?
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE!

AFTER YOU MASTER THE PRACTICE PIECE FROM BEFORE
I CAN ONLY TEACH YOU
I HAVE NOTHING ELSE TO TEACH YOU NOW
AH...
BUT IT'S UP TO YOU TO CONTINUE OR STOP HERE
I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY DAYS IT'D TAKE YOU


EH!?

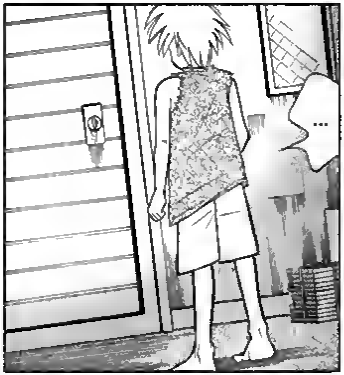
DON'T PLAY THAT "PIANO OF THE FOREST" FOR A WHILE
AND ICHINOSE


YOU'RE IN THE PROCESS OF LEARNING HOW TO PLAY A NORMAL PIANO SO IF YOU PLAY THAT, IT'LL MESS YOU UP
WH-WHY...?


!

UNLESS YOU WANT TO CONTINUE PLAYING THAT "FINGER PRACTICE PIECE" FOR YEARS

BASTAAAAAA-
AAAAAAARD!!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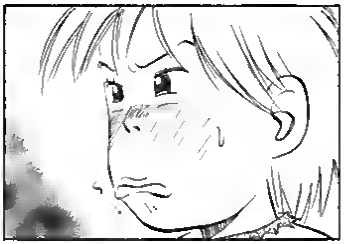
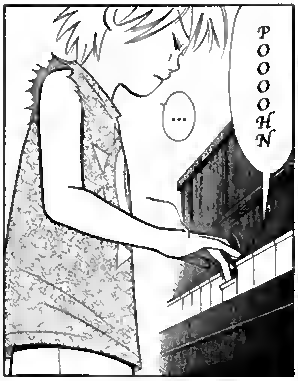
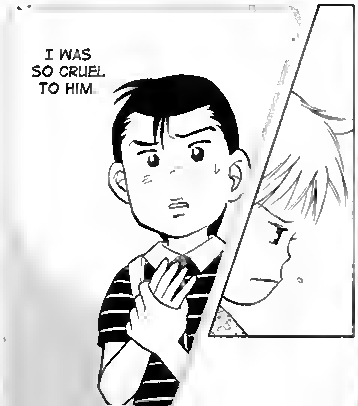
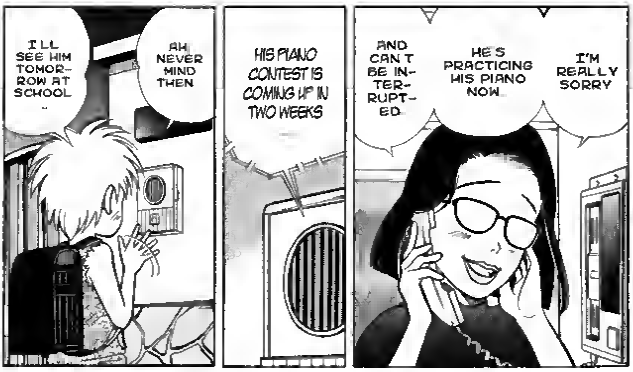
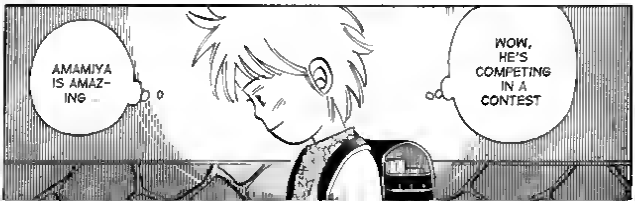


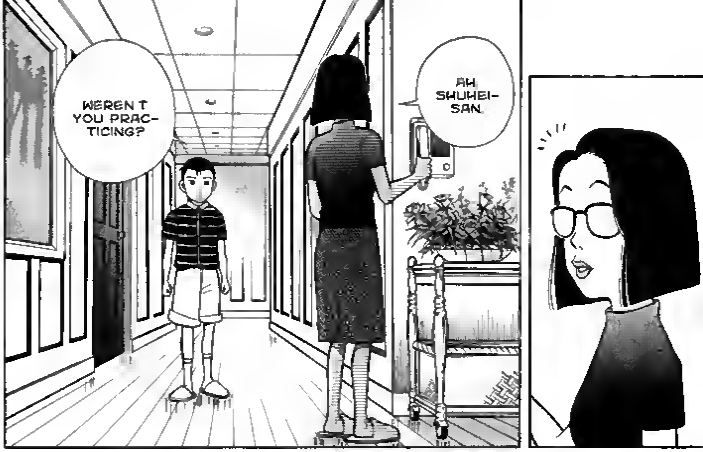


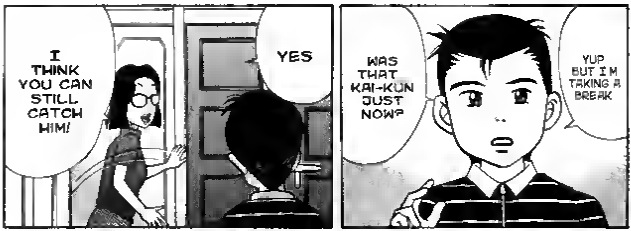
— I WONDER... IF AMAMIYA HAS BEEN DOING THIS ALL THE TIME...




I'LL SEE HIM TOMORROW AT SCHOOL...
AH NEVER MIND THEN
HIS PIANO CONTEST IS COMING UP IN TWO WEEKS
AND CAN'T BE INTERRUPTED
HE'S PRACTICING HIS PIANO NOW...
I'M REALLY SORRY


AMAMIYA IS AMAZING...
WOW, HE'S COMPETING IN A CONTEST


AH, SHUHEI-SAN.
WEREN'T YOU PRACTICING?

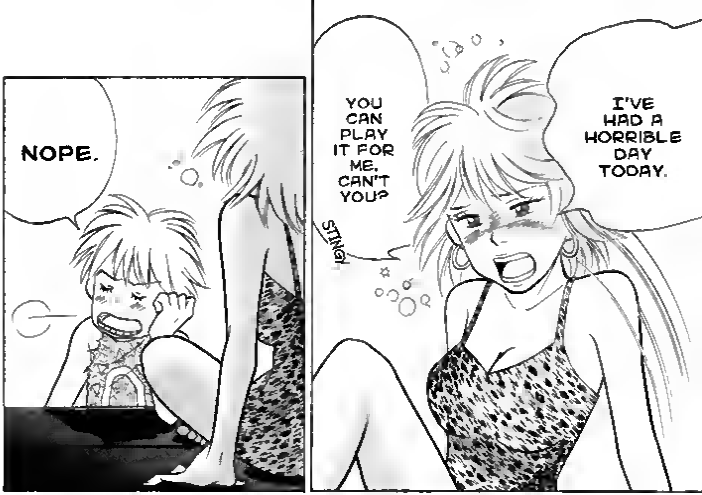

YUP. BUT I'M TAKING A BREAK.
WAS THAT KAI-KUN JUST NOW?
YES
I THINK YOU CAN STILL CATCH HIM!

AH!
IT'S OKAY, MOM!
IT'S OKAY.
THERE'S NO TIME FOR ME TO WASTE.

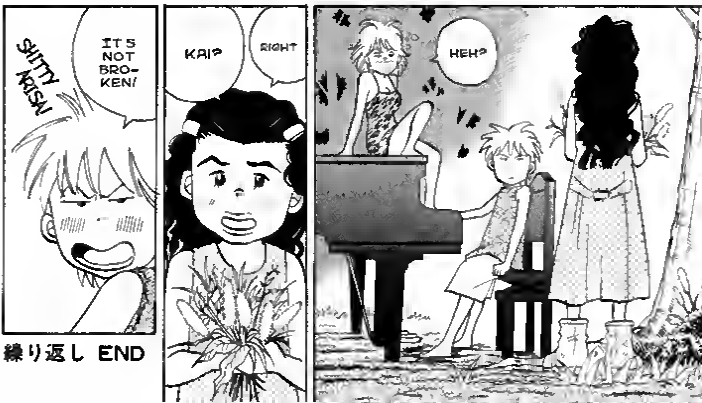
KAI-KUN.
DO YOUR BEST SHUHEI-SAN ♡
I'M DIFFERENT FROM YOU...
I'M NOT PLAYING THE PIANO FOR FUN!!

HEY, KAI,
PLAY SOME-THING FOR MEEEE.

HEEEEY.
I SAID I WON'T PLAY IT.
SHUT UP, DRUNK


I'VE HAD A HORRIBLE DAY TODAY.
YOU CAN PLAY IT FOR ME. CAN'T YOU?
STING!
NOPE.

REI-CHAN, YOU KNOW,
THAT PIANO'S BROKEN NOW.

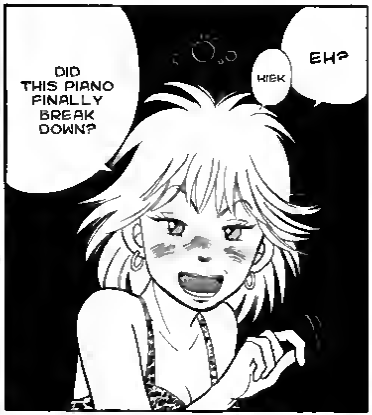

HEH?
RIGHT
KAI?
IT'S NOT BRO-KEN!
PSHH
SULLY

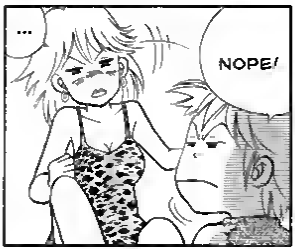
繰り返し END

Chapter 22

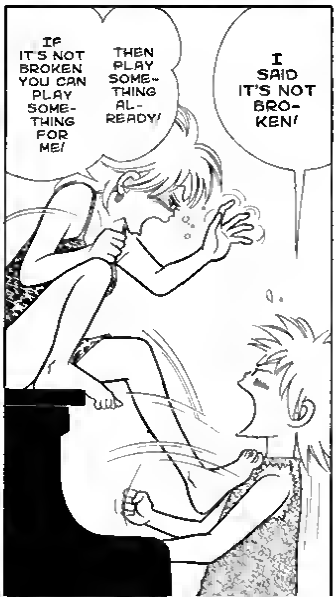
Can't Get Away

Reimu&KEFI
scanned by: Musashi
edited by: barbapapa
translated by: Ocean

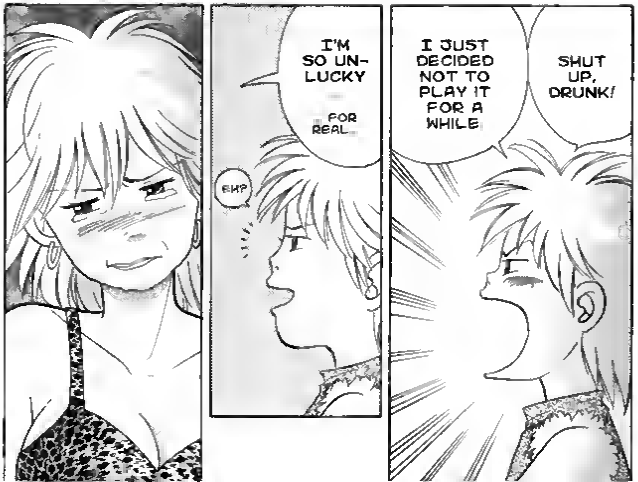

EH?
HIEK
DID THIS PIANO FINALLY BREAK DOWN?

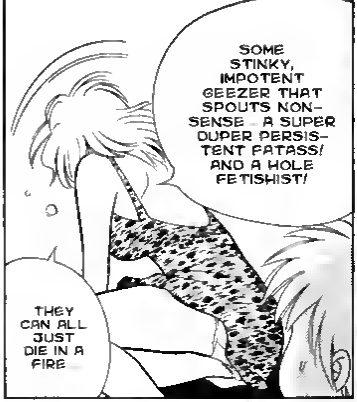

...
NOPE!

IT'S NOT BROKEN, BUT I CAN'T PLAY IT!


I SAID IT'S NOT BRO-KEN!
THEN PLAY SOME-THING AL-READY!
IF IT'S NOT BROKEN YOU CAN PLAY SOME-THING FOR ME!

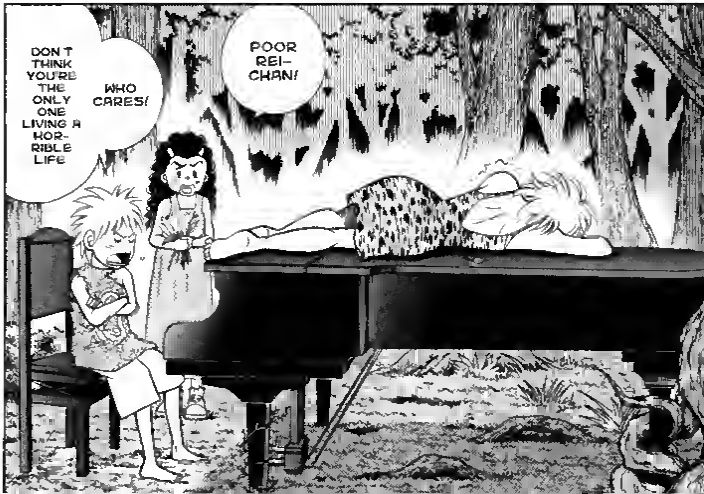
THE PIANO'S FINALLY BROKEN, AH HA HA HA
AAAAH HA HA HA HAAH!


I'M SO UN-LUCKY FOR REAL
EH?
I JUST DECIDED NOT TO PLAY IT FOR A WHILE
SHUT UP, DRUNK!


SOME STINKY, IMPOTENT GEEZER THAT SPOUTS NON-SENSE - A SUPER DUPER PERSIS-TENT FATASS! AND A HOLE FETISHIST!
THEY CAN ALL JUST DIE IN A FIRE

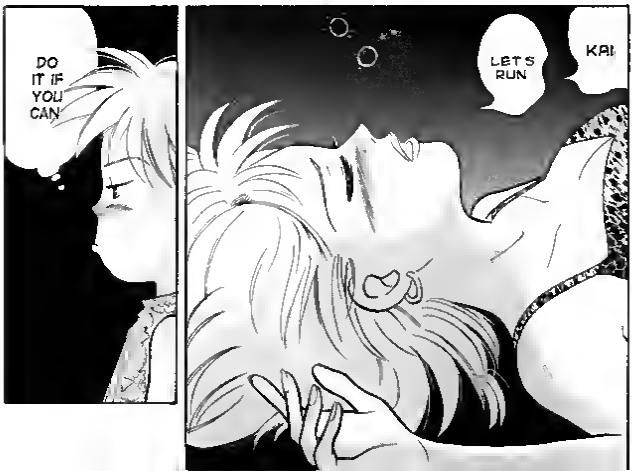
YOU SEE, I'VE HAD ALL THESE HORRIBLE CUSTOMERS TODAY

BY FALLING ASLEEP WHILE LISTENING TO YOUR PIANO
A NIGHT LIKE THIS WOULD BE TOO CRUEL UNLESS I CAN HEAL MY WOUNDED HEART


DON'T THINK YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE LIVING A HOR-RIBLE LIFE
WHO CARES!
POOR REI-CHAN!

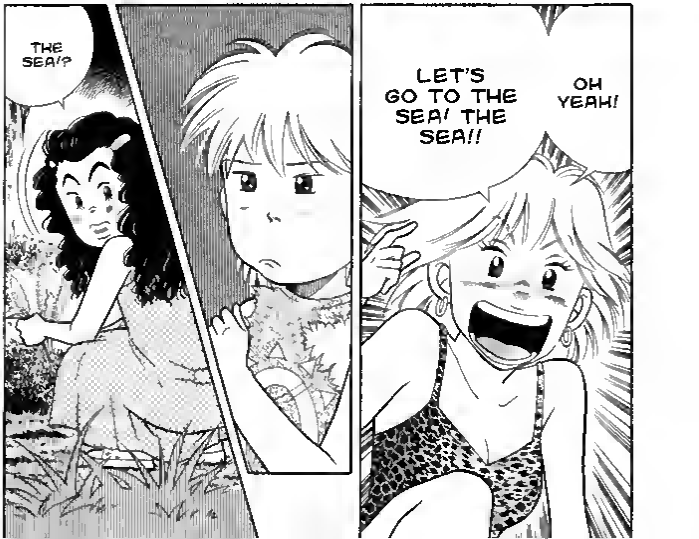
SHOULD I RUN?
KAI.
WHAT?
I DON'T LIKE IT HERE
HEY, REI-CHAN
IF YOU CAN SOLVE THE PROBLEM BY RUNNING AWAY, I WANT TO RUN AWAY, TOO! BUT
I HATE THE EDGE OF THE FOREST.

WHENEVER SHE'S HAVING A HARD TIME, SHE GETS DRUNK AND MOANS
HIRK


KAI
LET'S RUN
DO IT IF YOU CAN

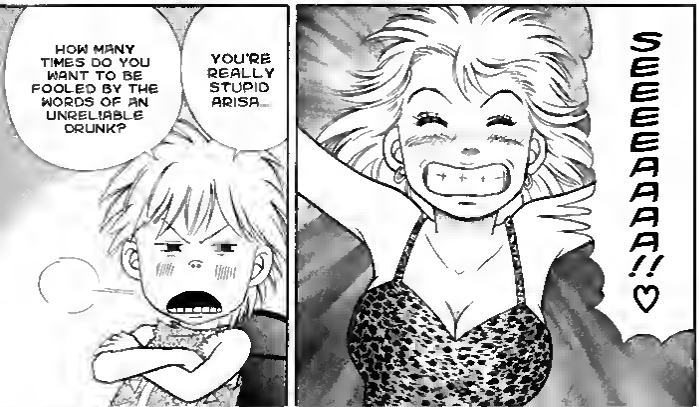
REI-CHAN HASN'T LEFT THIS PLACE SINCE SHE WAS BORN.
NOT LIKE SHE'S TOO PROUD OR ANYTHING, BUT SHE WAS BORN AND GREW UP ON THE "EDGE OF THE FOREST" — AND SO WAS I.

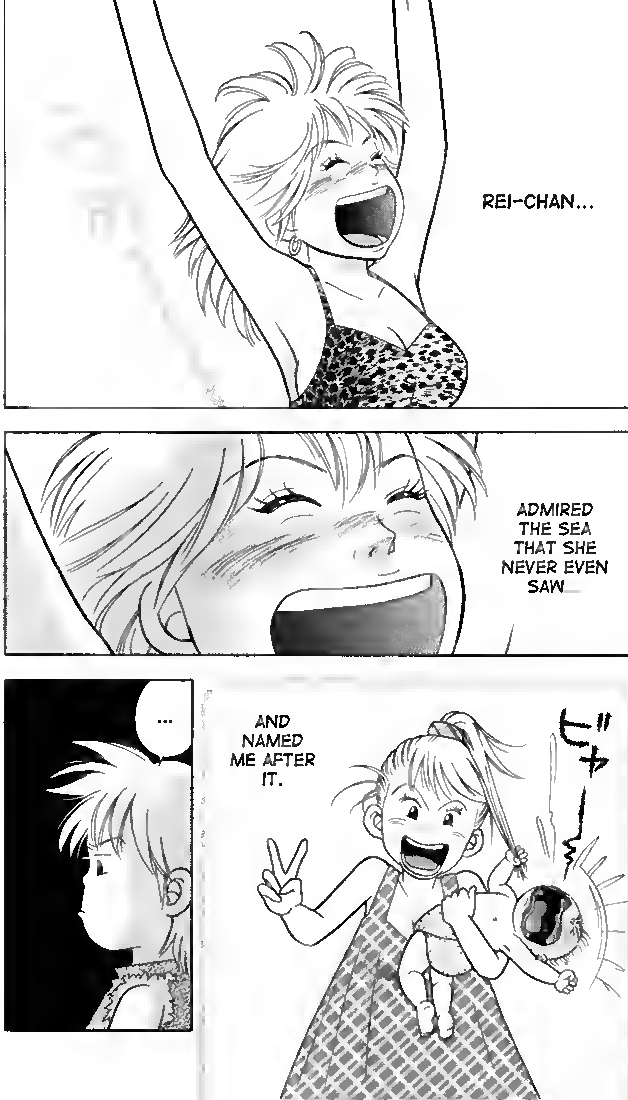
I'VE DECIDED!
KAI! LET'S RUN AWAY FROM HERE!
YOUR PIANO'S BROKEN NOW, TOO
IT'S GOOD TIMING
HIEK
I TOLD YOU IT'S NOT BRO-KEN
CUT IT OUT, DRUNK


OH YEAH!
LET'S GO TO THE SEA! THE SEA!!
THE SEA!?

ALL RIGHT! LET'S GO! ARISA'S COMING, TOO!
おはは
REI-CHAN! ARISA WANTS TO GO TO THE SEA, TOO!

SEA ♡
WAAAI !!

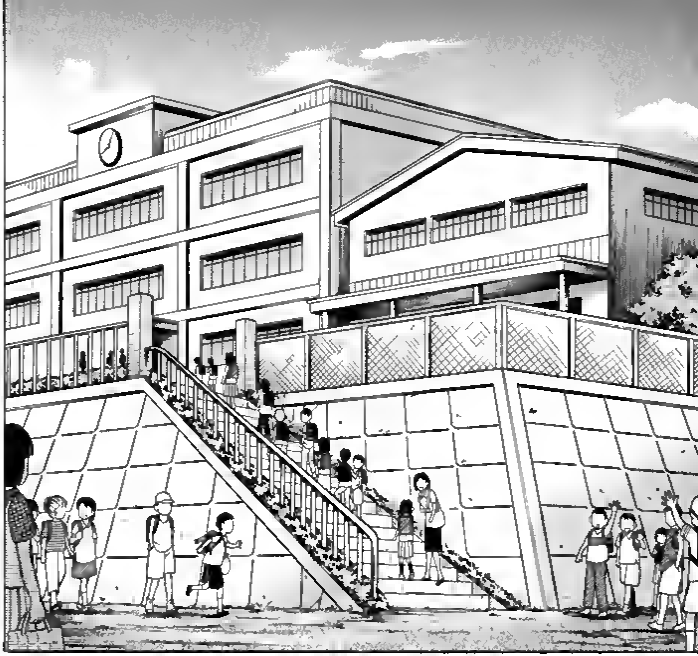

HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU WANT TO BE FOOLED BY THE WORDS OF AN UNRELIABLE DRUNK?
YOU'RE REALLY STUPID ARISA...
SEEEEAAAA!! ♡


REI-CHAN...
ADMIRED THE SEA THAT SHE NEVER EVEN SAW...
...
AND NAMED ME AFTER IT.
ヒャー

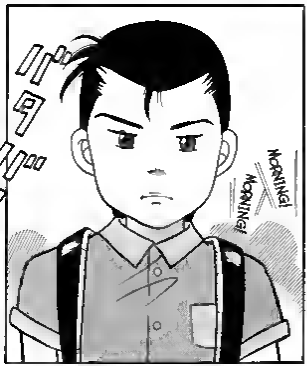
I...
I HATE THE SEA...
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, ICHI-NOSE...
THE KANJI IN YOUR NAME IS "SEA," TOO, HUH?
I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I LIKE IT OR NOT...
I'VE NEVER SEEN THE REAL SEA, EITHER
KAAA!
LET'S GO! TO THE SEA!!
SEEEAAA!!
LET'S RUN FROM THIS STUPID PLACE!
PLACE!!

— REI-CHAN PROBABLY WON'T BE ABLE TO RUN FROM HERE.
NEITHER WILL ARISA, MOST LIKELY
EH?
I WON'T GO
NO.
THEY WOULDN'T BE CONFIDENT IN LIVING SOMEWHERE ELSE THAN HERE
AND PROBABLY, NEITHER WILL I,
ALONE!
THEN ME AND ARISA'LL GO, ALONE!
IDIOT, IDIOT, TRAITOR!

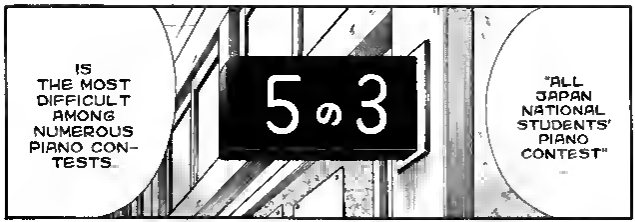
BE ABLE
TO LEAVE
THE PIANO
OF THE
FOREST.



AMAMIYA-KUUUN!
!


バタバタ
MORNING!
MORNING!

"ALL JAPAN NATIONAL STUDENTS' PIANO CONTEST"!
AH...
YUP.
I HEARD, AMAMIYA-KUN!
YOU'RE COMPETING IN "ALL-CON," RIGHT? AMAZING!
EH?
WE'LL HAVE A STUDENT FROM MORIWAKI ELEMENTARY COMPETING IN "ALL-CON" THIS YEAR. IT'S A HEROIC DEED!
AHA-NO...
YUP!
RIGHT?
WE'RE LEARNING THE PIANO TOO, AND HEARD ABOUT IT FROM OUR TEACHER YESTERDAY!
NO WAY!
GYA-HAHA-HAHA!!
WHAT ABOUT YOU TWO?


IS THE MOST DIFFICULT AMONG NUMEROUS PIANO CONTESTS
5の3
"ALL JAPAN NATIONAL STUDENTS' PIANO CONTEST"

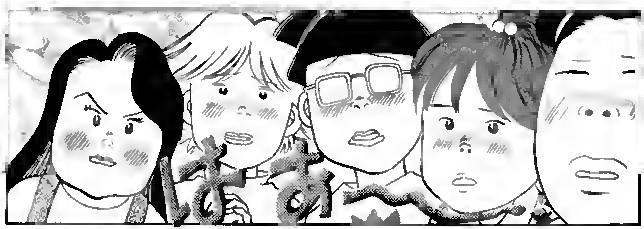
YOU'RE THE SON OF A PIANIST AFTER ALL!
HEY HEY MAYBE YOU'LL PASS THE PRELIMINARY TEST AND GET TO COMPETE IN THE REAL CONTEST!

おはよ
RIGHT ?
IF WE COMPETE, IT'LL BE THE BIGGEST SHAME EVER IN THE CONTEST

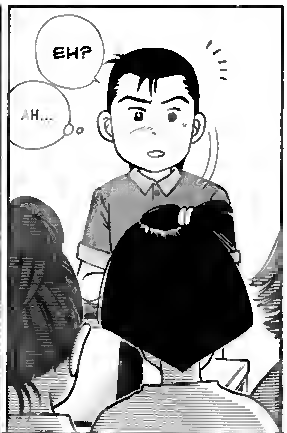
IF I CANNOT ATTEND THE REAL COMPETITION, I CAN'T BE NUMBER ONE IN JAPAN

I SHOULD AT LEAST BE ABLE TO PASS THAT
THANK YOU

TWO WEEKS
UNTIL THE PRE-LIMINARY.

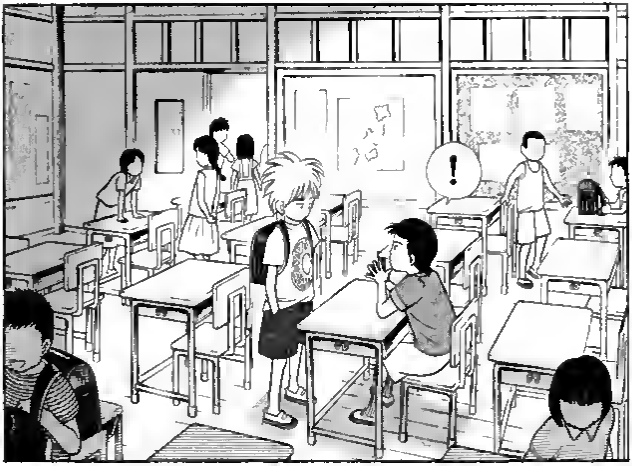


AH AMAMIYA-KUN, YOU'VE CHANGED SOME-WHAT.
YOU'RE TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM WHEN YOU FIRST TRANSFERRED HERE.
YOUR FACIAL EXPRES-SION TOO


EH?
AH...

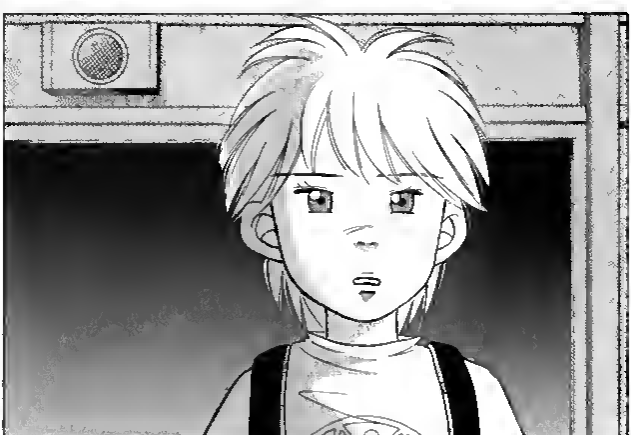
THAT'S RIGHT YOU SAID YOU'D NEVER LIKE SUCH A RICH-BOY TYPE!
Nooo
HEY, NORIKA! WHAT ARE YOU GETTING SO CARRIED AWAY FOR!?
AND KINDA COOL...
IT'S LIKE... SORT OF MANLY...
MOST THINGS ARE SO WORTHLESS TO ME NOW. ... EVEN COMING TO SCHOOL...
COMPARED TO ACHIEVING THAT...
IT'S BECAUSE I NOW HAVE A GOAL TO AIM FOR.
IF I REALLY HAVE CHANGED ...
...

DOROOOHN♪
DOROOOHN♪
ばっ
ばっ
ぱっ
DO
DO
DO
DOROOOHN♪
DOROOOHN♪
あはは…
SOMEONE'S COMPETING IN A CONTEST ALONGSIDE OTHER GIRLS~
GOOD MORNING, AMAMIYA.
COM-PLETELY WORTHLESS GUYS
DO
DO


!

I APOLO-GIZE
S-SORRY FOR BEING SO CRUEL YESTER-DAY!
...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO APOLOGIZE, ICHINOSE-KUN
YOU WERE RIGHT...
YEAH, I HEARD YOUR CONTEST IS IN TWO WEEKS
THIS ISN'T THE TIME FOR ME TO WORRY ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE...
IT'S MY FAULT FOR POKING MY NOSE INTO SOMEONE ELSE'S BUSINESS
IF YOU HAVE A GOAL!
IT'S NOT HARD AT ALL
THAT'S WHY AMAMIYA...
I... JUST REALIZED THAT LESSONS ARE HARD.
ナデ



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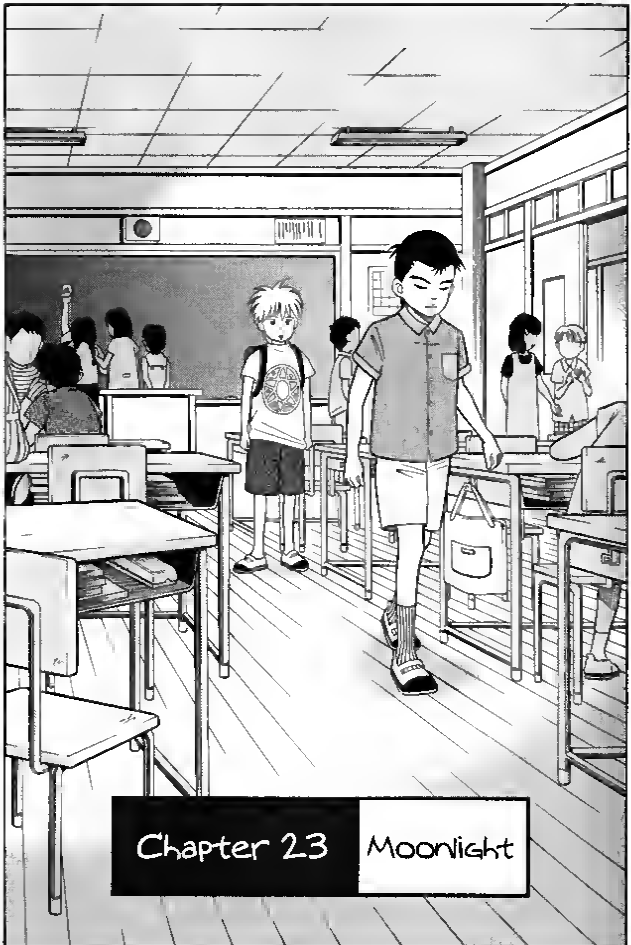

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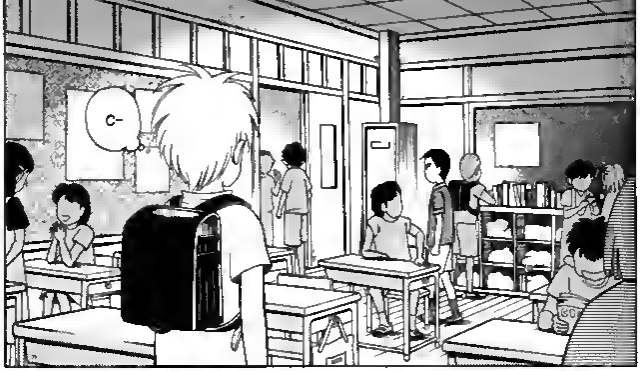
……
YOU WERE RIGHT
YOU DON'T HAVE TO APOLOGIZE ICHINOSE-KUN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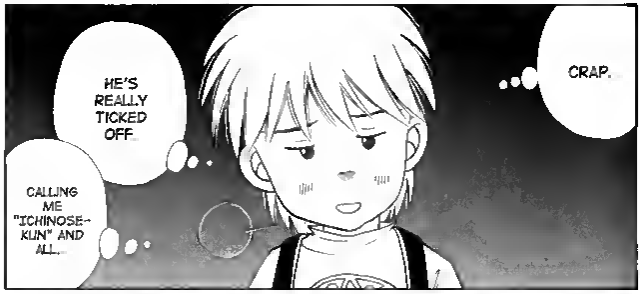
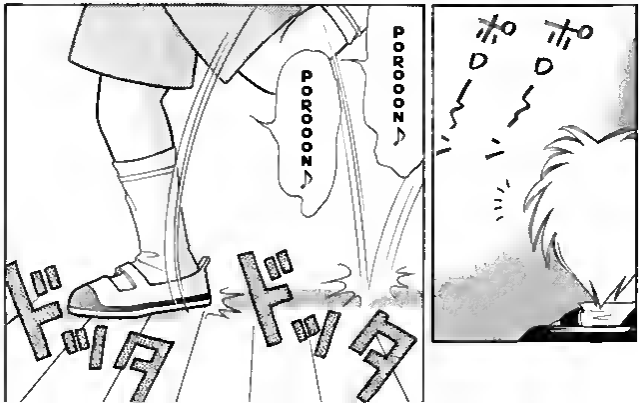

CRAP.
HE'S REALLY TICKED OFF.
CALLING ME "ICHINOSE-KUN" AND ALL...


POROOON♪
POROOON♪
ドッドッドッ
ポ
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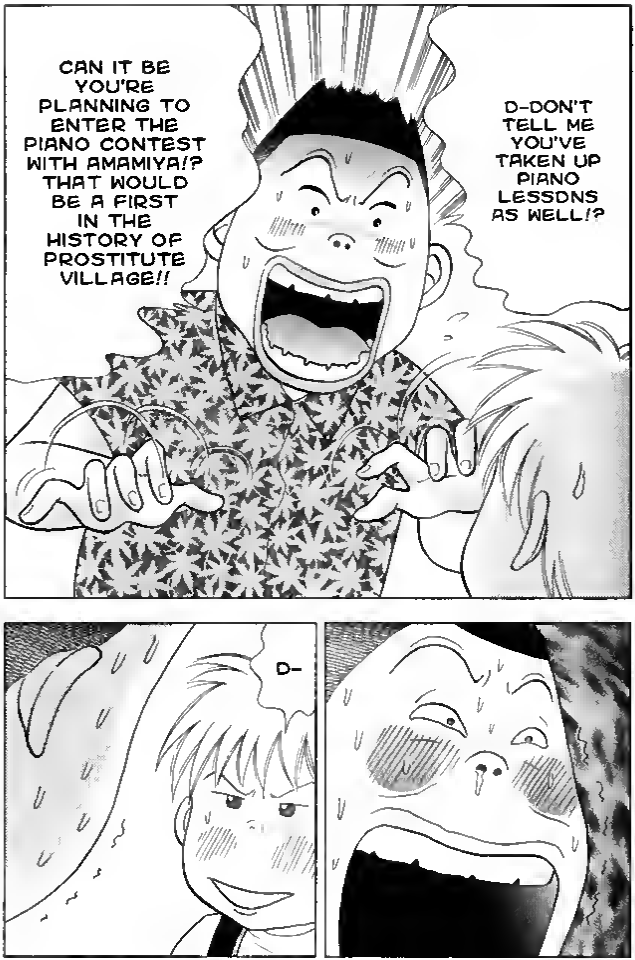
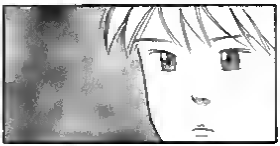
D
D

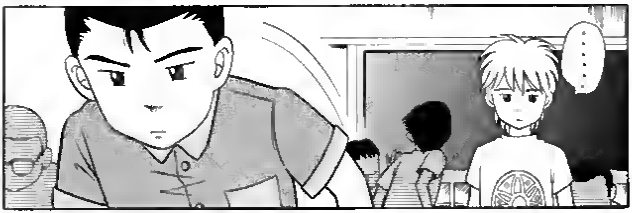
I HEARD A CERTAIN SOMEONE IS GONNA ENTER A CONTEST WITH A BUNCH OF GIRLS ~~~!
PORORON♪
PORORON♪
HEY, HEY, LOOK WHO WE HAVE HERE. THE YOUNG BOSS OF PROSTITUTE VILLAGE! KAI-KUN!!
AH.
AND THERE'S THE IDIOT
YOU MENTIONED SOMETHING ABOUT A "LESSON" YESTERDAY BUT—
AAAAH, RIGHT, YOUNG BOSS.
IDIOT.

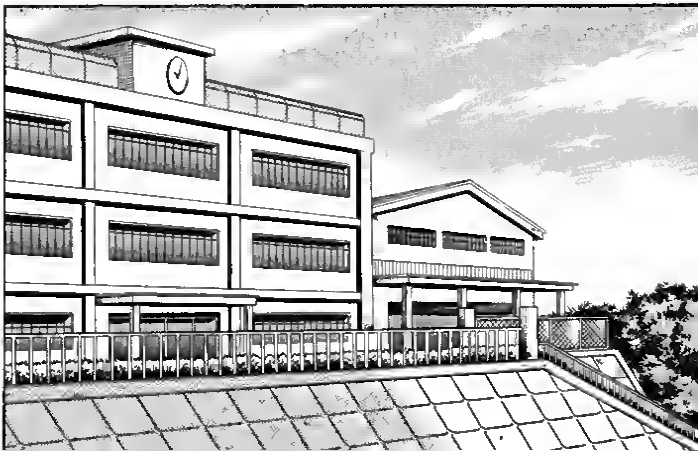

CAN IT BE YOU'RE PLANNING TO ENTER THE PIANO CONTEST WITH AMAMIYA!? THAT WOULD BE A FIRST IN THE HISTORY OF PROSTITUTE VILLAGE!!
D-DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE TAKEN UP PIANO LESSONS AS WELL!?
D-

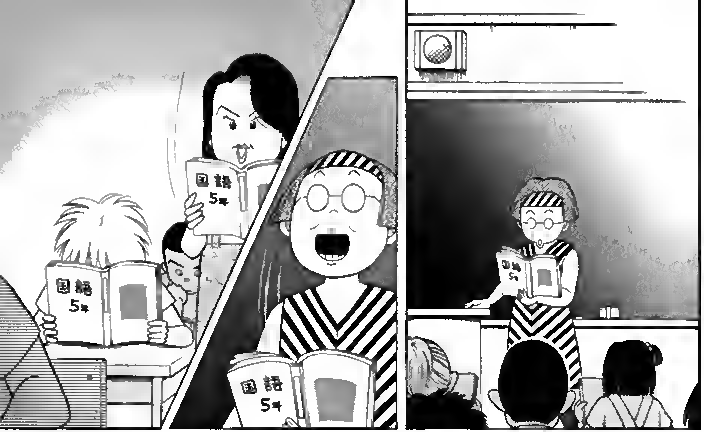
DON'T BE SILLY
AS IF, THAT'LL NEVER HAPPEN ♡
(PU)
あはは……
POROOON♪
POROOON♪
ポロ～ン
ポロ～ン
CRASH
THE END

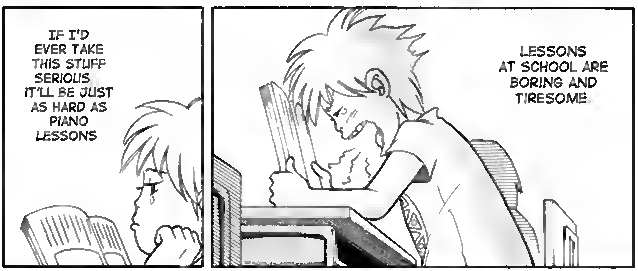
ピッピッピー
5の3
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, KAI!?
Y-YOU BASTARD !!
ピッピー
CHILDREN! BE QUIET AND TAKE YOUR SEATS!!
HMPH!
YOU GOT LUCKY, MAN!
TCH.





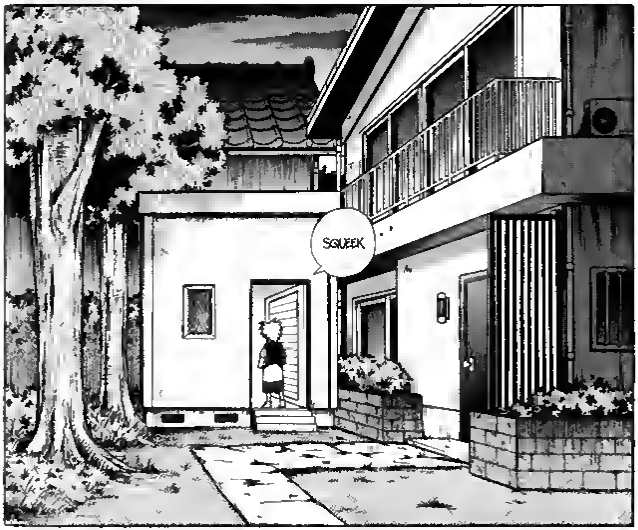



国語
5年


IF I'D EVER TAKE THIS STUFF SERIOUS IT'LL BE JUST AS HARD AS PIANO LESSONS
LESSONS AT SCHOOL ARE BORING AND TIRESOME

—— AMAMIYA SAYS ONCE YOU HAVE A GOAL, IT ISN'T THAT HARD...
国語
5年
.....

BUT EVEN WITH A GOAL...
...


SQUEEK

PON
PON
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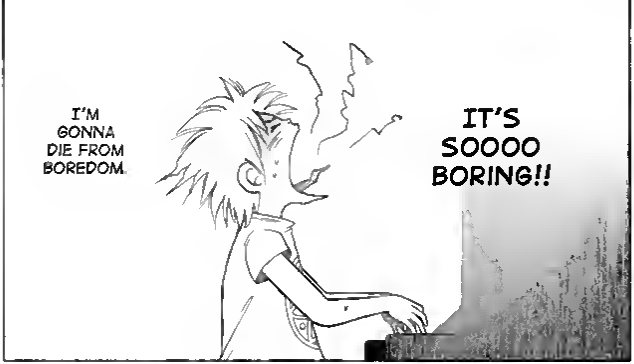
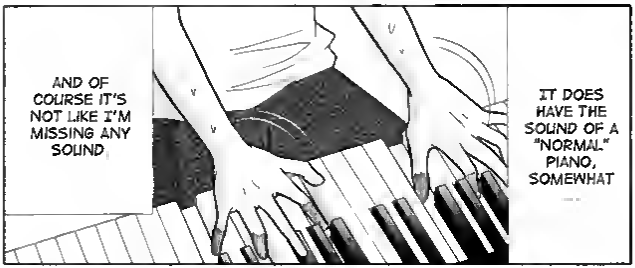
PON

THE REPETITION OF THIS FINGER EXERCISE WITHOUT A REAL MELODY
IT'S STILL HARD FOR ME.... OR SHOULD I SAY, IT'S SO TIRESOME
PON
REPEATING THE SAME THING...
BORED WITH IT. BORED WITH IT. BORED WITH IT...
AFTER PLAYING IT ONCE, I WAS ALREADY BORED WITH IT
OVER AND OVER


I'M GONNA DIE FROM BOREDOM.
IT'S SOOOO BORING!!


AND OF COURSE IT'S NOT LIKE I'M MISSING ANY SOUND.
IT DOES HAVE THE SOUND OF A "NORMAL" PIANO, SOMEWHAT...

PON
PON
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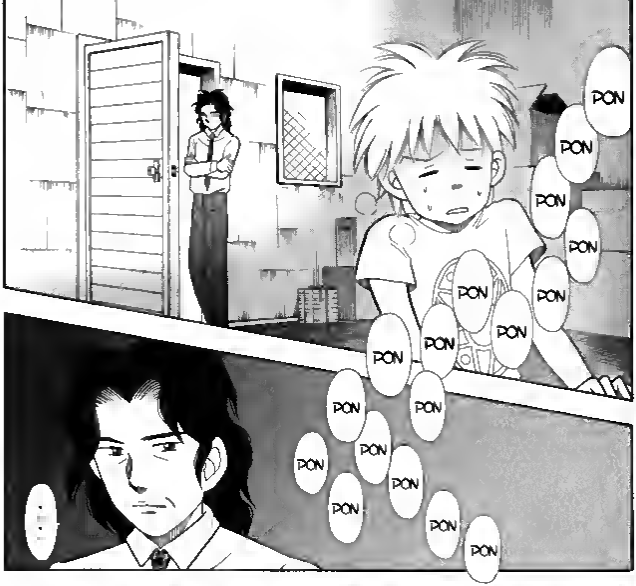
PON
PON

I THINK I'M PLAYING IT JUST RIGHT, BUT...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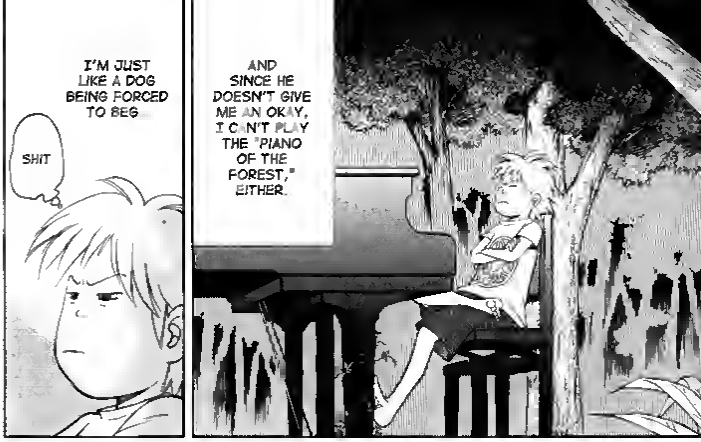
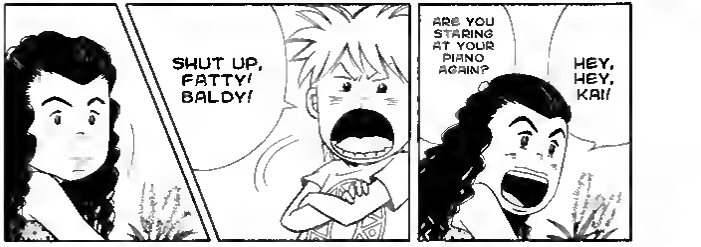

I'M JUST LIKE A DOG BEING FORCED TO BEG
SHIT
AND SINCE HE DOESN'T GIVE ME AN OKAY, I CAN'T PLAY THE "PIANO OF THE FOREST," EITHER.


SHUT UP, FATTY! BALDY!
ARE YOU STARING AT YOUR PIANO AGAIN?
HEY, HEY, KAI!

... THE STRESS IS BUILDING UP.
SHUSH!
HOW IS ARI-CHAN A BALDY?
HEY, HEY, HOW IS ARI-CHAN A FATTY?
HEY! HEY DID YOU MEAN ARI-CHAN WITH THAT?

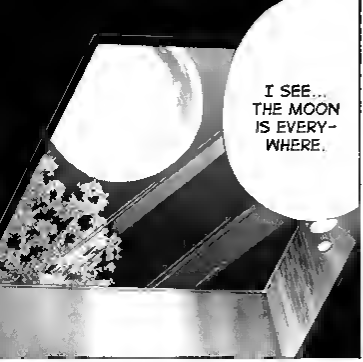
BUT AJINO STILL DOESN'T GIVE ME AN OKAY.
PON
PON
PON

IF THIS CONTINUES, I'M GONNA BE REALLY SICK...

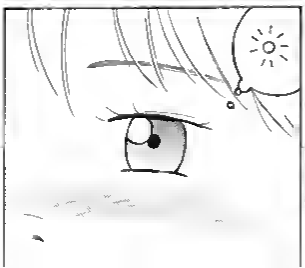
WHAT AM I GONNA DO...?
AND EVENTUALLY, I'LL DIE.

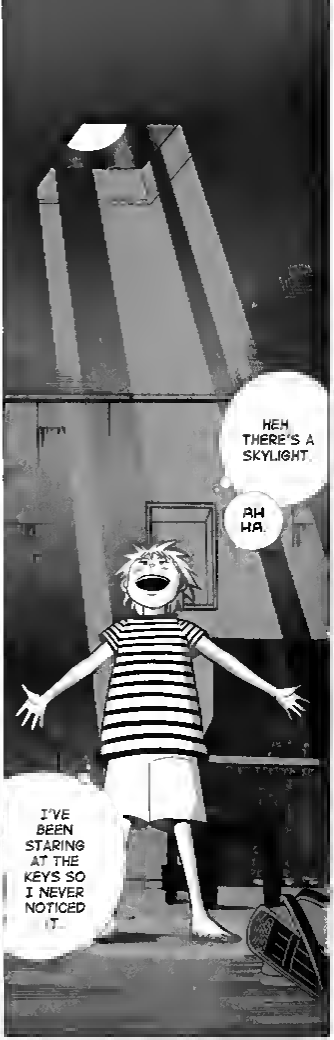
ぱあ
!?
しょぼん
WH-WHO'S THERE!?
AOINO!?
!!
AH.
WHA
DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT.

IT'S JUST THE MOON-LIGHT


I SEE... THE MOON IS EVERY-WHERE.

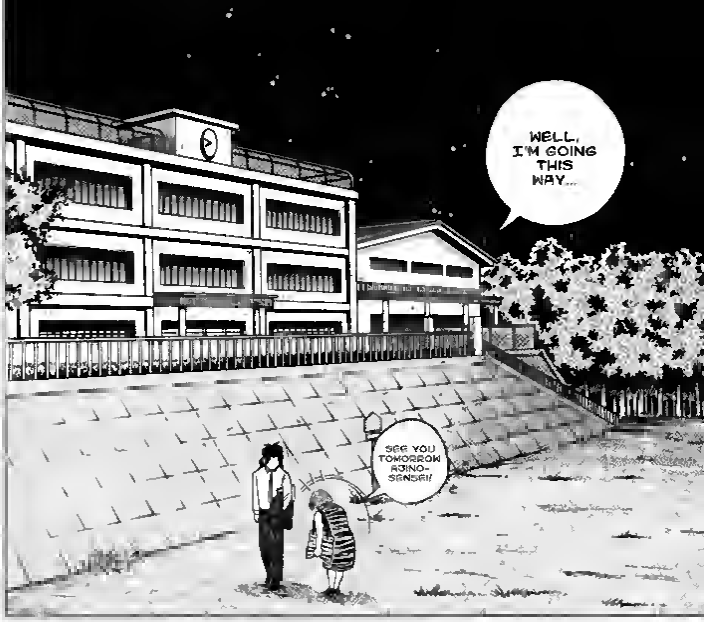
はぁ...




HEH THERE'S A SKYLIGHT.
AH HA.
I'VE BEEN STARING AT THE KEYS SO I NEVER NOTICED IT.

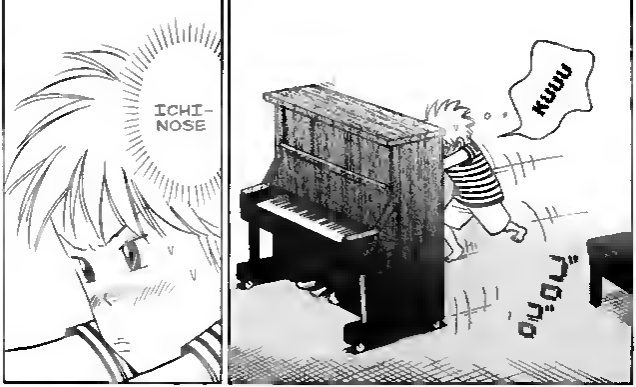
ARE YOU HEADING HOME NOW?
AJINO-SENSEI!
OH!
パラパラパラ
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE "ALL JAPAN NATIONAL STUDENTS' PIANO CONTEST" ?
THAT REMINDS ME
AND BEFORE I REALIZED IT IT WAS DARK ALREADY
OH MY!
I'VE BEEN ORGANIZING THE INSTRUMENTS

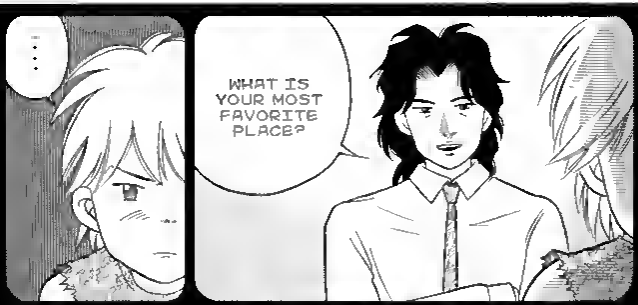
CONTEST-ANTS MIGHT EVEN APPEAR IN THE NEWSPAPER TOO
SOMETHING LIKE IT BEING AN INCREDIBLE HONOR JUST TO ENTER IT
I HEARD IT'S THE BEST OF THE BEST AMONG STUDENT PIANO CONTESTS
ALL JAPAN
YES
THOUGH, I WOULDN'T REALLY KNOW IF IT'S STILL LIKE THAT...
YES... THAT'S WHAT PEOPLE SAY...
ACTUALLY THE CHILDREN WERE TALKING ABOUT IT IN CLASS AND
IF ONE OF MY STUDENTS BECAME A CONTESTANT, MAYBE I, AS THEIR HOMEROOM TEACHER, COULD GET IN THE NEWSPAPER, TOO...?
WOW, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I-IT REALLY IS A GREAT CONTEST AFTER ALL.
...?
IS THAT SO?
EHHHH?


WELL, I'M GOING THIS WAY...
SEE YOU TOMORROW, AONO-SENSEI!

OOH, GOTTA LOSE WEIGHT QUICK ♡
. . . .

ALL JAPAN NATIONAL STUDENTS PIANO CONTEST
I SEE
IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR ALREADY
ゴロ ゴロ
HEEEK
SO HEAVY
ゴロ ゴロ


ICHI-
NOSE
KUUU
PONO

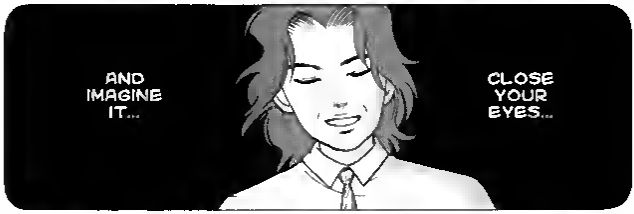

...
WHAT IS YOUR MOST FAVORITE PLACE?

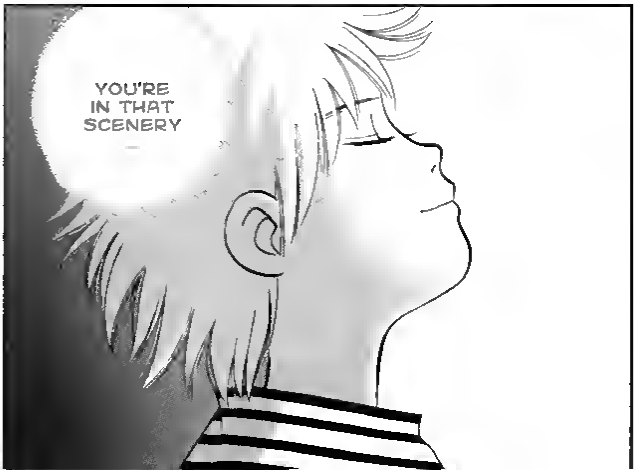
IMAGINE YOU'RE IN THAT PLACE

YOU CAN CONCENTRATE ON THE SOUND
THEN, YOU CAN CALM DOWN AND DEVOTE YOUR EARS TO THE SOUND
BUT...
IT'S PROBABLY NOTHING BUT A LITTLE TRICK.
IT...
MY MOST FAVORITE PLACE IS...
MY FAVORITE PLACE IS

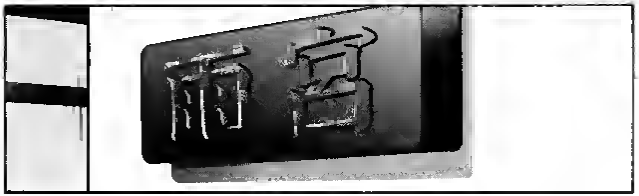
THE FOREST OF THE PIANO.
END

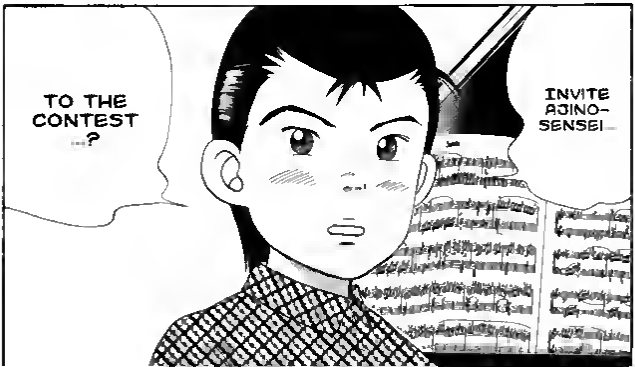
WHAT IS YOUR MOST FAVORITE PLACE?
ICHI-NOSE


AND IMAGINE IT...
CLOSE YOUR EYES...


YOU'RE IN THAT SCENERY

... YES, IMAGINE THAT.
Chapter 24
Deal


雨宮

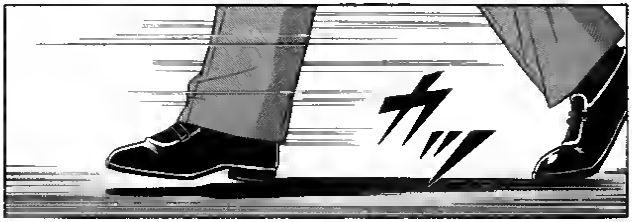

TO THE CONTEST ...?
INVITE AOINO-SENSEI...

AND LISTEN TO YOUR PIANO THERE, SHUHEI-SAN!
WE HAVE TO INSIST FOR AJINO-SENSEI TO COME...
YES!
AH...
NATURALLY YOU'LL GET FIRST PLACE IN THE CONTEST SHUHEI-SAN!
RIGHT? ♡
I'D BE MORE THAN HAPPY WITH THAT BUT
I—
HE CAN'T IGNORE THE BEST PIANO IN JAPAN!
EVEN THOUGH HE DOESN'T WANT TO ACCEPT ANY PUPILS.

HOW ?
THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TO MAKE IT SO THAT HE HAS TO COME!
BUT EVEN IF WE INVITE AOINO-SENSEI OVER TO THE CONTEST, I DON'T KNOW IF HE'LL COME...
FOR THE CONTEST!
WE'LL ASK HIM TO BE ONE OF THE JUDGES
A JUDGE !?
A-

I ASKED YOICHIRO-SAN
AND HE SAID HE'LL TAKE CARE OF IT IMMEDIATELY!
HE SAID HE'LL MAKE AJINO-SENSEI ONE OF THE JUDGES!
CAN HE DO THAT?
OF COURSE!
IT'S AN EASY TASK FOR SOMEONE AS INFLUENTIAL IN THAT WORLD AS YOUR FATHER!
A-

AJINO-SENSEI
IS GOING TO BE
A JUDGE AT THE
CONTEST...!!



IT'S
ALREADY
SO LATE

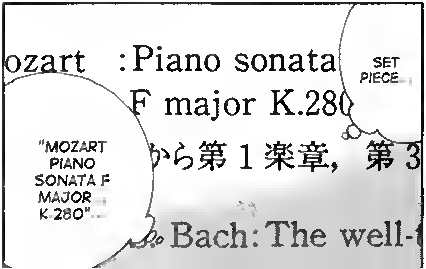
!
ALL JAPA
STUDENTS'
56TH

ALL JAPAN NATIONAL
STUDENTS' PIANO CONTEST
56TH
1999
参加規定
主催者 毎朝新聞社
後援者 音羽放送協会
■ピアノ課題曲
●予選 次の課題曲を演奏すること。演奏順序は自由とする。
小学生の部 Mozart Piano sonata F major K.280
から第1楽章、第3楽章
小学生の部 J.S. Bach The well tempered clavier
第1巻 No.6 D minor BWV851
第1巻 No.13 F sharp major BWV858
Moszkowski 15 Etuden op.72/4,No.5 C major
No.6 F major
高校生の部 J.S. Bach The well tempered clavier

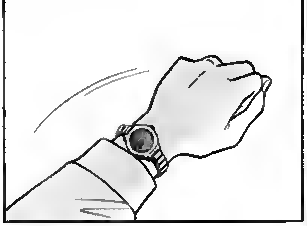
ヤマイ楽器店
ALL JAPAN NATIONAL STUDENTS PIANO CONTEST
SO IT'S REAL PRELIMINARY IS IN 10 DAYS...
YAMAI

PIANO SET PIECE
● PRELIMINARY Play the set piece listed belo
Elementary school students. Mozart
Junior high school students J. S. Ba

HRMM
>


ozart : Piano sonata
F major K.280
から第１楽章，第３
Bach: The well-
SET PIECE
"MOZART PIANO SONATA F MAJOR K-280"...

THAT'S THE PIECE ICHINOSE WAS HUMMING IN THE MUSIC ROOM
K280...
EXCUSE ME, SIR



I'M SURE ICHINOSE WENT HOME BY NOW
IT'S 8:45 PM ALREADY

AH NO...
SO IF YOU WANT TO COME IN
IF YOU DON'T MIND I'M ABOUT TO CLOSE THE STORE NOW...

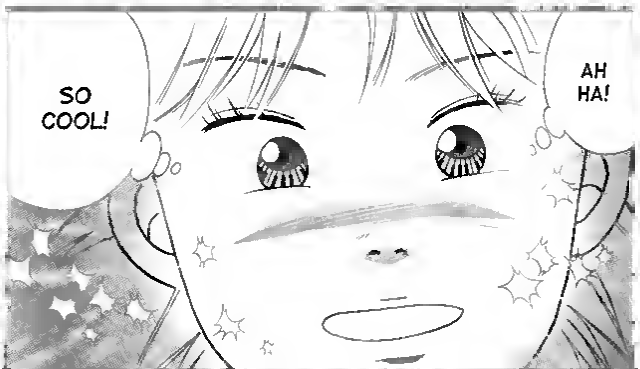
THIS IS THE FOREST ...
I'M IN THE "FOREST OF THE PIANO" NOW.

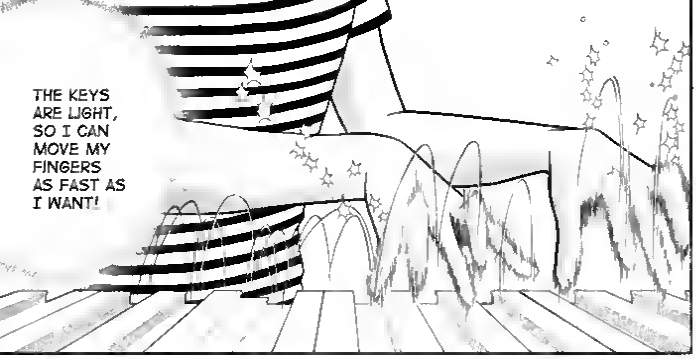
IT'S A MAGICAL PIANO...
IT HEALS MY HEART EVERY TIME..
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
AND IN FRONT OF ME, IS THE PIANO OF THE FOREST...
POOON

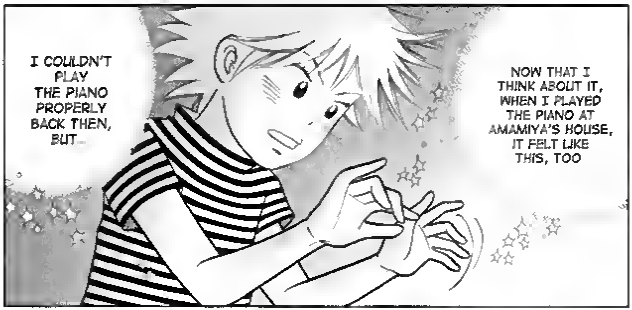
.....
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON
PON

THE SOUND IS SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT...
HUH...?
THE FOREST'S PIANO IS MORE...
LIKE THIS...
AH
SOME-THING LIKE THIS...
YEAH.

AH... THIS...
THIS IS... MY SOUND.


AH HA!
SO COOL!


THE KEYS ARE LIGHT, SO I CAN MOVE MY FINGERS AS FAST AS I WANT!


I COULDN'T PLAY THE PIANO PROPERLY BACK THEN, BUT...
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, WHEN I PLAYED THE PIANO AT AMAMIYA'S HOUSE, IT FELT LIKE THIS, TOO

GOOD! THAT'S ENOUGH.

FASTER
EVEN MORE
FASTER
FASTER

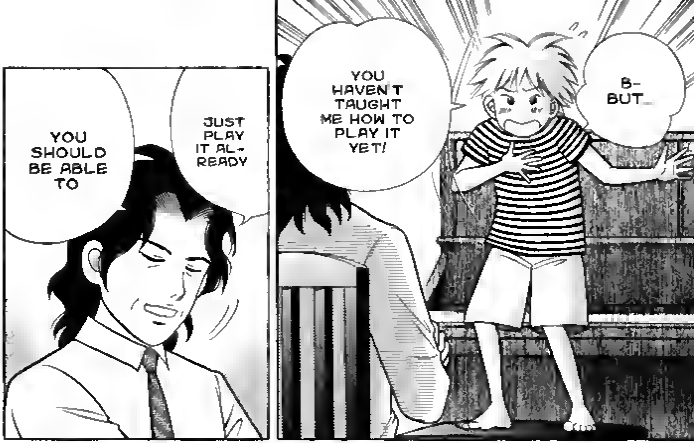
!!!?

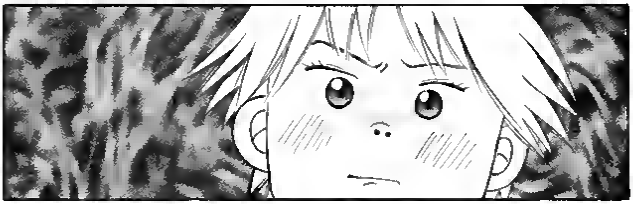
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN THERE!?
HA HA NOT LONG
I DIDN'T IMAGINE YOU'D STILL BE HERE AT THIS HOUR

AH

AJINO !!

YOU PASSED
N~
YOU CAN STOP PRACTICING YOUR FINGERS NOW
EH?
カッ
タ
EH?
TRY PLAYING "MINUTE WALTZ" NEXT.
カタッ!!


B-BUT...
YOU HAVEN'T TAUGHT ME HOW TO PLAY IT YET!
JUST PLAY IT AL-READY
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO

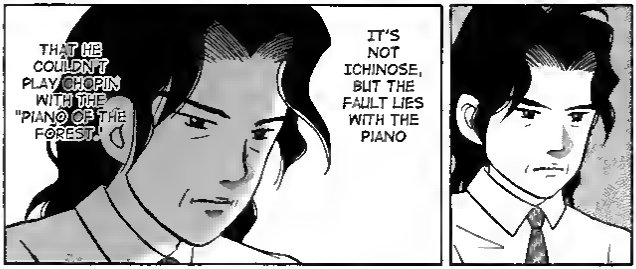


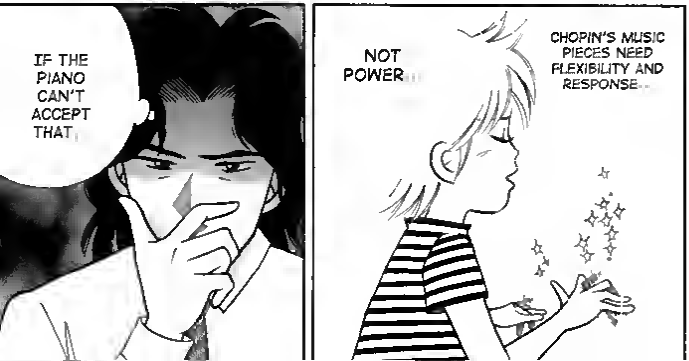
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN PLAY IT!! I'VE BEEN DOING NOTHING BUT FINGER EXERCISES!!
NON-STOP!! ALL THE TIME!! UNTIL I GOT BORED WITH IT!!
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU NEEDED TO ACCUSTOM YOUR FIN-GERS
AND THANKS TO THAT, YOU CAN NOW PLAY A "NORMAL" PIANO RIGHT?

FOR REAL?
WITH A "NORMAL" PIANO, YOU CAN PLAY CHOPIN
AH...
.....
PLAY IT, AND YOU MIGHT JUST SURPRISE YOUR-SELF
YOU SHOULD TRY IT OUT
CON-CEN-TRATE
WELL, THEN

EH?
HE'S RIGHT.
AH...
I'M PLAYING CHOPIN.
I CAN REALLY PLAY IT!

I'M... PLAYING "MINUTE WALTZ."


THAT HE COULDN'T PLAY CHOPIN WITH THE "PIANO OF THE FOREST."
IT'S NOT ICHINOSE, BUT THE FAULT LIES WITH THE PIANO

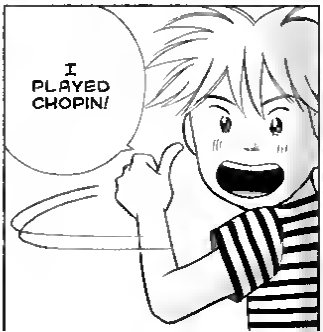

IF THE PIANO CAN'T ACCEPT THAT,
NOT POWER...
CHOPIN'S MUSIC PIECES NEED FLEXIBILITY AND RESPONSE...

MAYBE ITS LIFE IS NEARING AN END!!?

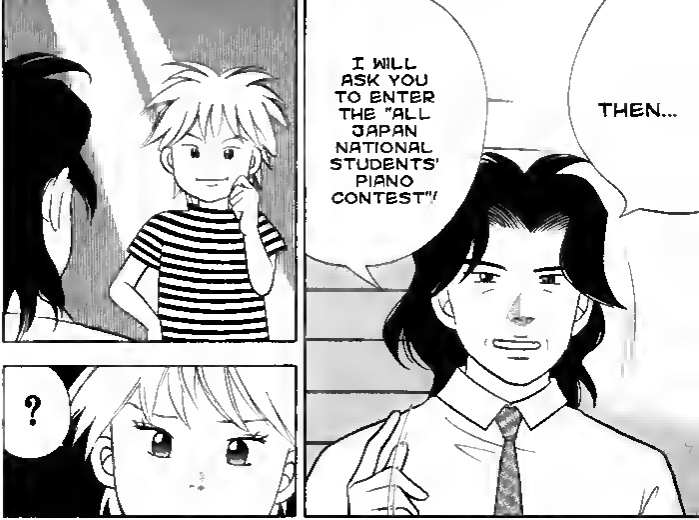
YAY!!

HA HA
GOOO JOB, ME!

YAY ♡
YAY ♡

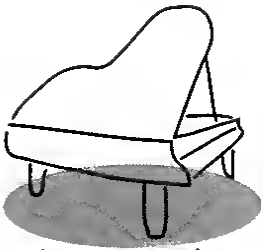

I PLAYED CHOPIN!

!
I'M GLAD FOR YOU, TOO.
NOW, ABOUT OUR DEAL!
SO NOW IT'S TIME FOR ME TO LISTEN TO YOUR REQUEST!
THANKS TO YOU, I WAS ABLE TO PLAY CHOPIN
. . . . . .
OF COURSE, IT'S GOTTA BE SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T COST ME A CENT...
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
WE MADE A PROMISE THAT WE'D MAKE THE DEAL WHEN I COULD PLAY IT!
DON'T TELL ME YOU FORGOT ABOUT IT!


I WILL ASK YOU TO ENTER THE "ALL JAPAN NATIONAL STUDENTS' PIANO CONTEST"!
THEN...
?

EH?
K280.
THE PRELIMI-NARY SET PIECE IS MOZART'S

取り引き END



The Perfect World of KAI

To be continued in Volume 4...

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かつての栄光とともに
森の奥深く
うち捨てられたピアノ。
少年一ノ瀬海の指は
眠るピアノの音を呼び覚ました。
失われた奇跡の旋律を求め
森が、心が、騒ぐ。